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Letter dated 6 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, to enclose herewith the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000 (see annex).*

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 20, 31, 33, 34, 36, 38, 43, 44, 46, 49, 50, 53, 56, 57, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 122, 125, 151, 158 and 160, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

* The annex is being circulated in the languages of submission only.

Annex to the letter dated 6 June 2000 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

INTRODUCTION

1. We, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, met in Cartagena, Colombia from 8 to 9 April 2000, to review the developments and implementation of decisions of the Durban Summit, to make preparations for the next Summit, and to discuss matters of urgency.

2. We express our warm appreciation for the Report of the Chairman on the activities of the Movement since the XII Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government held in Durban in August and September 1998, which contributed to the strengthening and the promotion of the unity and solidarity among the members of the Movement.

3. We welcome the Dominican Republic as a Member of the Movement as endorsed at the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation at the 54 Session of the UN General Assembly held in New York, 23 September 1999.

CHAPTER I GLOBAL ISSUES

The international context since the Durban Summit

4. The evolution of the international situation since the Durban Summit indicates that there are many opportunities, challenges and problems facing the Movement at the beginning of the new century. We recall the position of our Heads of State or Government expressed at Durban on the review of the international situation.

5. We emphasise that even when the spectre of a nuclear holocaust seems more remote than in the recent past and several countries resolved to reduce their military budgets in order to devote such resources to meet the social and economic development requirements of their people, great powers continue to endanger the future of humankind through the unjustified stockpiling and development of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and a rampant traffic in armaments continues to put in jeopardy the security and stability of vast regions of the world.

6. The world today is still far from being a peaceful, just and secure place. Simmering disputes, violent conflicts, aggression and foreign occupation, interference in the internal affairs of States, policies of hegemony and domination, ethnic strife, religious intolerance, xenophobia, new forms of racism and narrowly conceived nationalism are, inter alia, major and dangerous obstacles to harmonious coexistence among States and peoples and have even led to the disintegration of States and societies.

7. Cold War era legacies such as foreign occupation, foreign military bases, the use or threat of use of force, pressure, interference in internal affairs and sanctions inconsistent with international law, still constitute a main disturbing factor to establishing fair and equitable international relations conforming with the strong desire of the overwhelming majority of

governments and peoples and we emphasise the need to continue to consolidate our efforts for the removal of such legacies.

8. The global economy continues to be characterised by rapid growth in flows of trade, finance, information and technology, which has led to increased interdependence among countries. Countries interact with the global economy from vastly different levels of development and, hence, the impact of globalisation and liberalisation has been highly uneven. While the current trend was expected to lead to increasing economic opportunity for some developing economies, it is evident that a large number of Member Countries of the Non-Aligned Movement, particularly in Africa, continue to be marginalised and are thus made unable to share the benefits, if any, of these processes. Most developing countries continue to confront problems of access to markets, capital and technology, and many grapple with the institutional transformation necessary for meaningful integration into the world economy.

9. We underline the fact that the gap between the developed and developing countries, specially the LDCs, continues to widen, and we reiterate that the problems deriving from poverty and social injustices, far from being overcome, have been significantly aggravated. We note further that economic underdevelopment, poverty and social injustice constitute a source of frustration and a cause of new conflicts, and that stability, security, democracy and peace cannot be consolidated without rectifying the growing international inequalities.

10. We reaffirm that all nations have the inalienable right to freely establish their own political and economic systems and take measures to safeguard their security on the basis of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including respect for the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, self-determination and non-interference in the internal affairs of others.

11. We wish to reiterate, however, that it is of paramount importance that the new opportunities, challenges and problems be addressed by following strictly the United Nations Charter. In this context, we wish to reaffirm the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement as well as the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter. We also want to reiterate our firm condemnation of all unilateral military actions including those made without proper authorisation from the United Nations Security Council or threats of military action against the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the members of the Movement which constitute acts of aggression and blatant violations of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference.

12. We welcome the decision of the OAU Summit in Algiers in July 1999 calling for the restoration, before the next OAU Summit, of constitutional legality in States whose governments had come to power through unconstitutional means. We strongly recommend that this issue be considered by the Movement at the next Summit.

The Role of the Non-Aligned Movement

13. We emphasise the fact that in order for the Movement to enhance its role at the international level, it must continue to work on expanding and reinforcing its ability and capacity for initiative, representation and negotiation, as well as its ethical, political and moral strength as the principal forum representing the interests and aspirations of the developing world. In this regard, we reaffirm that full respect for the founding principles of the Movement in Bandung (1955) and the principles set forth in the United Nations Charter are our irrevocable political and moral commitment. The role of the Movement in the attainment of its

objectives hinges upon the solidarity of its members, its unity and cohesion, founded on a culture of peace, development and co-operation. All forms of co-operation among NAM Members shall be further encouraged and enhanced.

14. We reiterate the Non-Aligned Countries' commitment to respect scrupulously the principles and objectives of non-alignment as well as its positions submitted in the UN on behalf of the NAM, and express our determination to make every effort to further strengthen the Non-Aligned Movement's capacity for action and to develop concrete modalities to enhance the influence and impact of its decisions on world affairs, as adopted by our Heads of State or Government in the XII Summit. We reiterate our firm condemnation of the aggression, racism, the use of force, terrorism, foreign occupation, foreign military bases, and interference in internal affairs, unilateral coercive measures, unfair economic practices and xenophobia. In this context, we reaffirm our commitment to take up the challenge to fundamentally transform international relations in order to achieve a world of peace, security, justice and dignity for all.

15. We reiterate the need to enhance the role of the Non-Aligned Movement in the light of changes in the international situation, so that the Movement as spokesman for the interests and aspirations of the Non-Aligned and other developing countries, will be able to respond effectively and expeditiously to the challenges raised in the new millennium, on the basis of common positions agreed by Members. The Movement has to achieve maximum utilisation of all its mechanisms, the Co-ordinating Bureau, NAM Working Groups, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, the convening of NAM meetings in relevant international fora and the JCC. We also reaffirm the ongoing task of the Ministerial Committee on Methodology.

16. We reiterate the need for the Movement to enhance its participation, unity and cohesion and to co-ordinate the positions of members towards major international issues, with the view to strengthen our negotiating leverage vis-à-vis developed countries.

17. In accordance with the decision of the Durban Summit, the Ministers adopted the Plan of Action formulated on the basis of the decisions taken by XII Summit.

North-South Dialogue

18. We hope that this new millennium will bring the opportunity to conduct a North-South dialogue based on the mutuality of interest and benefits, shared responsibilities and genuine interdependence. We appreciate the tasks performed by the NAM Troika of Foreign Ministers to enhance the role of the Movement and promote dialogue with the developed countries and we encourage them to continue, particularly with the view to the next Summit of the G8 in Okinawa, Japan, in July 2000. In this regard, we emphasise the importance of the participation of all members of the Movement through the NAM Co-ordinating Bureau, in shaping the agenda of these meetings as well as the timely reporting of the outcome of the meetings to the Co-ordinating Bureau.

19. We are confident that discussions and decisions to be taken at the South Summit, to be held from 10 to 14 April 2000 in Havana, Cuba, will constitute an important contribution to the enhancement of North-South relations and to the development aims of the developing countries.

20. We decide to take urgent steps to develop a proposal, including practical steps to devise a precise economic agenda for the South, in consultation, inter alia, through the COB in New York, and with Members of the Ad Hoc Panel of Economists and for its presentation to the Standing Ministerial Committee on Economic Co-operation, which should be held soon.

Dialogue among Civilisations

21. We recall the position at the XII Durban Summit with regard to the dialogue among civilisations, initiated by President Mohammad Khatami of the Islamic Republic of Iran and recommit ourselves to promoting this concept, through planning and the implementation of appropriate cultural, educational and social programmes. We believe that the Dialogue among Civilisations should be a durable process, and support the strengthening and institutionalising of these processes at regional and international levels. We welcome UNGA resolutions (53/22 & 54/113) and call upon all Member States to co-operate with the personal representative of the UN Secretary-General and to contribute to the special programmes in the year 2001 designated by the General Assembly as the United Nations Year of Dialogue Among Civilisations, and to arrange at the national level demonstrations during that year.

Strengthening, Restructuring, Revitalising and Democratising the United Nations

22. We uphold the NAM position on the vital role of the UN in the maintenance of international peace and security and the strengthening of international co-operation, in line with the principles of the UN Charter and the equal sovereignty of its Members. In this context, we recall the decisions and directives of the XII Summit with respect to the various reform proposals presented by the Secretary-General as outlined in his Report entitled "Renewing the United Nations: A Program of Reform".

23. We underscore the need to preserve and promote the principles and purposes of the UN Charter and General Assembly mandates together with the need to keep under close intergovernmental oversight and review all proposals which are still to be implemented as well as a continuous assessment of those which are being implemented.

24. Ultimately, the success of the reform of the UN can only be judged in terms of the real improvements in its functioning and the positive impact it has on the lives of the peoples of the developing countries. We stress that any further efforts regarding UN reforms should focus on strengthening the role of the Organisation in promoting international co-operation for development. In this regard, we welcome the establishment of the development account in accordance with GA resolution 54/15 and underscore the constructive role of developing countries during the negotiations. We, however, regret that the impact of UN reforms on the development of developing countries is yet to be felt, with a continuous decline in the resources made available to the UN for multilateral development co-operation.

25. We welcome all decisions which have been adopted and which are aimed at strengthening and revitalising the role of the General Assembly, as the highest deliberative and decision-making organ of the United Nations in which all Member States equally participate, especially those related to the consideration by the General Assembly of the reports of other main organs, in particular the report of the Security Council and the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organisation. We emphasise the importance of ensuring that the role of the Security Council conforms to its mandate as defined in the United Nations Charter, so that there is no encroachment on the jurisdiction and the prerogatives of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies.

26. We underscore the intergovernmental character of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies. Efforts to strengthen the contribution of NGOs to the work of the UN and its bodies should be undertaken through the consultative arrangements of ECOSOC.

27. Discussions in the Open-Ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council, and other matters related to the Security Council, have shown that while a convergence of views has emerged on a number of issues, important differences still exist on many others. We call on our Permanent Representatives in New York to continue, in the ensuing negotiations in the Open-Ended Working Group, to pursue directives which were adopted during the Durban Summit, as outlined in paragraphs 65 to 74 of the Final Document, and contained in the Movement's position papers adopted on 13 February 1995, 20 May 1996, the NAM negotiating paper dated 11 March 1997, the decisions of the Cartagena Summit, the Twelfth Ministerial Conference in New Delhi, 7-8 April 1997, the Ministerial Meeting in New York, on 25 September 1997, the Meeting of the Co-ordinating Bureau in Cartagena, 19-20 May 1998, and the Ministerial Meeting in New York on September 1999. We welcome the adoption of UNGA resolution 53/30 and the Report of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council (A/53/47).

28. We reiterate our concern over the increasing occurrence of the term "preventive action" in the absence of an agreed definition or understanding of this term, as well as inadequate clarification of its implications on United Nations activities and resources. We urge that the General Assembly develop guidelines for the UN on this matter.

29. We recall that the imposition of sanctions is an issue of serious concern for Non-Aligned Countries. We reaffirm that the imposition of sanctions in accordance with the Charter should be considered only after all means of peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter have been exhausted and a thorough consideration undertaken of the short and long-term effects of such sanctions. Sanctions are a blunt instrument, the use of which raises fundamental ethical questions of whether sufferings inflicted on vulnerable groups in the target country are legitimate means of exerting pressure. The objectives of sanctions are not to punish or otherwise exact retribution.

30. We reiterate that the objectives of sanctions regimes should be clearly defined. Sanctions should be lifted as soon as the objectives are achieved. They should be imposed for a specified time-frame and be based on tenable legal grounds. The conditions demanded of the country or party on which sanctions are imposed should be clearly defined and subject to periodic review. Attempts to impose or to prolong the application of sanctions to achieve political ends should be rejected.

The Millennium Summit

31. We pledge our firm support to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly in the year 2000 convened as "The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations", with a Millennium Summit of the United Nations as an integral part thereof. The Non-Aligned Countries will actively avail themselves of the opportunity presented by the Summit to articulate their vision of prospects and challenges for the new millennium, and concrete actions required by the international community to effectively address them. We stress that the Millennium Summit and its preparatory process must provide for effective participation by all Member States, especially the members of the Non-Aligned Movement, through a transparent intergovernmental process of deliberations and negotiations, to ensure full ownership of its outcome.

32. We endorse the proposal by the Joint Co-ordinating Committee of the NAM and the G-77 that the overarching theme for the Millennium Summit should be "Role of the United Nations in the 21st Century", and that within this overarching theme, there should be two sub-topics: (i) Peace, Security and Disarmament, and (ii) Development and Poverty Eradication.

Financial Situation of the United Nations

33. We express our concern over the deteriorating financial situation of the Organisation and reiterate that the primary cause of the financial crisis continues to be the failure on the part of certain developed countries to discharge fully, without conditions and on time, their assessed contribution to the Regular Budget and to peace-keeping operations. We urge all countries in arrears to settle their outstanding dues without further delay and to pay their future assessments in full, on time and without imposing preconditions.

34. We re-emphasise our concern at the continued cross borrowing from the peace-keeping budgets to the regular budget, which also contribute to the delay in reimbursement to the troop and contingent-owned-equipment-providing countries, particularly to the Non-Aligned and developing countries. All Member States are strongly urged to fulfil their obligations under the Charter to bring an end to this extraordinary practice. We reiterate our concern over the delay in reimbursement and underscore the need for early reimbursement to troop and COE providing countries.

35. The principle of capacity to pay as a fundamental criterion in the apportionment of the expenses of the Organisation is important and should be maintained. The scale of assessments for the period 2001-2003 must take into consideration the economic conditions of the developing countries. Any unilateral attempt to modify the scale of assessments through conditionalities, which are contrary to the United Nations Charter, is unacceptable. Any significant modification of the scale would be considered only if it spreads the burden of payment, in accordance with the principle of capacity to pay, more broadly among the major contributors without adversely affecting NAM and other developing countries.

36. The principles and guidelines for the apportionment of the expenses of peace-keeping operations approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963 and 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 must be adopted on a permanent basis. In this regard, account must also be taken of the special responsibility of the five Permanent Members of the Security Council in the financing of such operations. Furthermore, we reiterate the position adopted at the XII Summit in which it is stressed that member countries of the NAM and other developing countries shall be classified in a category that is no higher than group C.

37. Recalling the proposals by the Secretary-General for procurement reform as outlined in A/52/534, we emphasise the critical importance of timely, efficient, transparent and cost-effective procurement of goods and services in support of peace-keeping operations. We express our grave concern at the negligible share of Non-Aligned and other developing countries in UN procurement. In this regard, we reiterate the need to ensure greater UN procurement from developing countries, especially Non-Aligned Countries in particular through the implementation or the provision of preferential treatment.

38. We further underline that the United Nations Suppliers Roster should be representative of the membership of the Organisation. In awarding procurement contracts, preference should be given to Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the United Nations.

39. We reiterate that international civil servants in accordance with Articles 100 and 101 of the UN Charter should carry out all the mandated programs and activities of the United Nations. The Gratis Personnel should be completely phased out in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

United Nations Peace-Keeping Operations

40. We reaffirm the guiding principles regarding peace-keeping operations contained in the Final Document adopted by the XI Ministerial Conference in Cairo on 3 June 1994 and reiterate the Movement's positions on peace-keeping adopted by the XII Summit of Heads of State or Government held in Durban on 29 August to 3 September 1998.

41. We reiterate our view that peace-keeping operations should not be used as a substitute for addressing the root causes of conflict. Those causes should be addressed in a coherent, well-planned, co-ordinated and comprehensive manner with political, social and developmental instruments. Consideration should be given to ways in which those efforts can continue without interruption after the departure of peace-keeping operations so as to ensure a smooth transition to lasting peace and security.

42. We reiterate that the maintenance of international peace and security is a primary responsibility of the United Nations and that the role of regional arrangements in that regard, should be in accordance with Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, and should not in any way substitute the role of the United Nations, or circumvent the full application of the guiding principles of United Nations peace-keeping. In this regard, we stress the need to avoid selectivity and double standards in establishing United Nations peace-keeping operations in Africa. Further, when constituting UN peace-keeping operations for any region of the world, we urge the Secretary-General of the United Nations to seek as broad a geographical representation as possible, consistent with the universal character of the Organisation.

43. We reaffirm that the funding of the United Nations peace-keeping operations through voluntary contributions should not influence UN Security Council decisions to establish peace-keeping operations or affect their mandate. We stress the need for regular and institutionalised consultations between troop contributing countries and the Security Council. We also stress the need to differentiate between peace-keeping operations and humanitarian assistance.

44. We stress that the Security Council should ascertain the views of prospective troop contributing countries before and while drafting mandates for UN peace-keeping operations, since these countries are primarily responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Council's mandate on the ground. We also stress that, while authorising force, the Security Council should adhere to the provisions of Articles 43 and 44 of the Charter of the United Nations.

45. We emphasise that the planning process within the Department of Peace-keeping Operations must be more transparent and effective and that troop contributing countries should be consulted at the earliest stages of mission planning. We reiterate our concern over the staffing structure of the Department of Peace-keeping Operations of the UN Secretariat whereby NAM Member Countries are insufficiently represented, particularly at professional levels. We stress that, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, personnel from Non-Aligned Movement Member Countries should be sufficiently represented.

46. The UN Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations remains the competent forum with the mandate to comprehensively review the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects. We stress the importance of consistently applying the principles and standards that the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations has set forth for the

establishment and conduct of peace-keeping operations and also emphasise the need to continue to consider definitions in a systematic fashion including proposals or conditions concerning peace-keeping operations.

47. We note the announcement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on March 7, 2000, that he has commissioned a major new study on "UN Peace Operations" and has constituted a panel of experts for this. While expressing our concern about the use of the undefined term "UN Peace Operations", we urge that, in view of the importance of the initiative taken by the Secretary-General, and its potential impact on the future of UN peace-keeping operations, the study should be reviewed by the competent bodies of the General Assembly, including the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, before submission to the Millennium Summit.

48. Having already addressed the report on the Fall of Srebrenica in plenary we urge the President of the General Assembly to do likewise on the Report of the Independent Inquiry into Actions of the United Nations during the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda in this current session of the General Assembly.

49. We reiterate our view that efforts aimed at enhancing the capacity of African countries in the various aspects of peace-keeping are complementary to the obligations of all United Nations Member States under the Charter of the United Nations with regard to their contribution in maintaining peace and security in Africa, and are not intended to replace or reduce engagement of non-African countries in peace-keeping operations in the continent.

50. We recognise the concerns of Member States regarding medical aspects of peace-keeping operations including the high risk of the transmission and contraction of HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases facing peace-keepers and other personnel in the field. We welcome the ongoing efforts of the DPKO Training Unit, including during pre-deployment orientation, to raise awareness of these diseases and request the DPKO to incorporate language into the "Guidelines for Military and Civpol Participation in Peace-keeping Operations" Manuals, to further raise the peace-keepers' awareness of these diseases.

51. We note the increasing demands for deployment in large number of civilian police personnel in United Nations peace-keeping operations and stress the importance of developing, by the UN Secretariat, at an early date, agreed guidelines on the principles governing the role of civilian police personnel in United Nations peace-keeping operations.

52. We express concern at the recent assertion in the report of the Secretary-General (S/2000/194 dated 8 March 2000) that the Multinational Standby Force High Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG) would be available at high readiness for peace-keeping operations where rapid response is important, including the humanitarian tasks mandated by the Security Council under Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations. In this regard, we reiterate that the name of the United Nations should not be used arbitrarily by individual States or groups in their activities without a relevant UN resolution, since the United Nations is the world's most universal international organisation.

Agenda for Peace

53. We reaffirm that, without any prejudice to the competence of the other principal organs of the United Nations' respective roles in post-conflict peace-building (PCPB) activities, the General Assembly must have the key role in the formulation of PCPB activities. In this regard, we also recognise the importance of the concerted actions of international agencies to support actively the national programs particularly of NAM Countries, which are in the process of recovery from recent conflicts, for reconstruction and rehabilitation, including the promotion of a culture of peace, which paves the way for the achievement of economic and social development.

54. We note that the UN Department of Peace-keeping Operations has concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to enhance co-operation between them, and to seek to increase the effectiveness of peace-keeping and human rights activities. While reiterating that the General Assembly must have the key role in the formulation of post-conflict peace-building (PCPB) activities, we express our concern over the fact that such an MOU should have been signed without any discussion on this subject in the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, and in the absence of inter-governmental agreement on this subject.

Regional Organisations

55. We highlight the important role that regional arrangements and agencies, composed of Non-Aligned and other developing countries, can play in the promotion of regional peace and security, economic co-operation and economic and social development.

56. While reaffirming that the primary responsibility for international peace and security rests with the United Nations, we stress that the role of regional arrangements or agencies, in that regard, should not in any way be substituted for the role of the United Nations, or circumvent the full application of the guiding principles of the United Nations and international law.

57. We reaffirm that a process of consultations, co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and regional arrangements or agencies, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter, as well as on their mandates, scope and composition, is useful and can contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.

58. Regional arrangements on economic co-operation can contribute to development and to the growth of the world economy through, inter alia, the promotion of trade, investment and technology transfer. We stress the need for a firm commitment to enhance economic co-operation among developing countries within the framework of an open, multilateral, equitable and non-discriminatory trading system.

59. In this context, we note that the Partnership concluded between ACP and EU provides for the negotiations of Economic Partnership Agreements between the EU and ACP sub-regions. We urge States concerned to devise appropriate strategies to effectively co-ordinate their position so that these negotiations are compatible with the objectives of regional integration such as those envisaged in the Abuja Treaty.

60. We welcome the convening of the IX Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Countries Members of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) that will take place in the State of Qatar in the year 2000 and are confident that the decisions of the Summit will

strengthen and promote international peace and security, and co-operation in conformity with the UN Charter and with the principles and interests of the Non-Aligned Movement Members.

The Right to Self-Determination and Decolonisation

61. We reiterate the continued validity of the fundamental rights of all peoples to self-determination, the exercise of which, in the case of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation, is essential to ensure the eradication of all these situations and to guarantee universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. We strongly condemn ongoing brutal suppression of the legitimate aspirations for self-determination of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation in various regions of the world.

62. We reaffirm the inalienable right of peoples of non-self-governing territories to self-determination and independence in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 regardless of the territory's size, geographical location, population and limited natural resources. We renew our commitment to hasten the complete elimination of colonialism, and support the effective implementation of the Plan of Action of the Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. In this regard, we propose the declaration of a new Decade for the elimination of Colonialism to commence in 2001. We reaffirm in this context that the principle of self-determination with respect to the remaining territories within the framework of the Program of Action should be implemented in accordance with the wishes of the people consistent with United Nations General Assembly resolutions and the Charter of the United Nations.

63. In the context of the implementation of UNGA resolution 1514 (XV), we reiterate that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country is incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. We also reaffirm the right of all people that have been subjected to colonialism to receive full compensation for the human and material losses they suffered as a result of colonialism, foreign occupation and alien domination.

64. We call for the full implementation of relevant UNESCO resolutions and decisions relating to the restitution of cultural property of peoples formerly under colonial rule and urge that payment of applicable compensation be made in conformity with United Nations General Assembly resolutions and the return of cultural property to their countries of origin. We also affirm the right of the Non-Aligned Countries to preserve their cultures and protect their national heritage, which are the basis of the cultural identity of these countries.

65. We reaffirm once again the right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) of the United Nations General Assembly. We take note of the resolution on Puerto Rico by the Committee on July 6, 1999, which, inter alia, requested the US Government to order the halt of its armed forces military drills and manoeuvres of Vieques Island and to withdraw from the occupied territory of Vieques. We request the Committee of 24 to continue actively pursuing the issue of Puerto Rico.

66. We reiterate our strong support for the Committee of 24, which is an important subsidiary body of the GA of the UN, and express our desire that the said body would continue to receive both the adequate human and financial resources aimed at actively pursuing its work in order to determine the interests of the peoples of non-self governing territories regarding their future political status, for which a number of actions, such as visiting missions and

regional seminars, are totally adequate and necessary. For this purpose, we once again call upon the Administering powers to grant their full support to the activities of the Committee.

Disarmament and International Security

67. We reaffirm and reiterate the long-standing principled positions of the Movement on disarmament and international security, including the decisions taken at the XII Summit in Durban.

68. We are deeply concerned at the updating of strategic defence doctrines that set out new rationales for the use of nuclear weapons. In this regard also, we are deeply concerned over the new "Alliance Strategic Concept" adopted by NATO in April 1999, which not only maintain unjustifiable concepts on international security based on promoting and developing military alliances and policies of nuclear deterrence, but also includes new elements aimed to open even more the scope for possible use or threat of use of force by NATO.

69. We are furthermore concerned over the negative implications of the development and deployment of anti-ballistic missile defence systems and the pursuit of advanced military technologies capable of deployment in outer space, which have, inter alia, contributed to the further erosion of an international climate conducive to the promotion of disarmament and the strengthening of international security. In this connection, we call upon the States Parties to the ABM Treaty to fully comply with its provisions.

70. We are convinced of the need for a comprehensive approach towards missiles, in a balanced and non discriminatory manner, as a contribution to international peace and security. In this context, we recall the General Assembly resolution 54/54 F.

71. We reiterate our long-standing principled position for the total elimination of all nuclear testing. We stress the significance of achieving universal adherence to the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), including by all the Nuclear Weapon States, which, inter alia, should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament. We express our satisfaction that 155 States have signed the Treaty and 55 States have ratified it thus far. We reiterate that if the objectives of the Treaty were to be fully realised, the continued commitment of all State signatories, especially the Nuclear Weapon States, to nuclear disarmament would be essential. We express our concern over the recent negative developments with regard to the ratification of the CTBT.

72. We reaffirm the importance of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body on disarmament. In this context, we regret that the continued inflexible postures of the Nuclear Weapon States continues to prevent the Conference on Disarmament from establishing in 2000 an Ad Hoc Committee on nuclear disarmament to start negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time, including a Nuclear Weapons Convention. In this regard, we reiterate our call on the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as the highest priority, an Ad Hoc Committee on Nuclear Disarmament. We underline once again the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and to bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.

73. We reiterate our conviction that efforts for the conclusion of a universal, unconditional and legally binding instrument on security assurances to Non-Nuclear-Weapon States should be pursued as a matter of priority by the members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

74. We consider the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones (NWFZ) created by the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba as a positive step towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament. The Movement welcomes the efforts aimed at creation of new nuclear-weapons-free zones in all regions of the world and calls for co-operation and broad consultation in order to achieve agreements freely arrived at between the states of the region concerned. We reiterate that in the context of nuclear-weapon free zones, it is essential that Nuclear Weapon States should provide unconditional assurances against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons to all States of the zone. We urge States to conclude agreements with a view to creating nuclear-weapon-free zones in regions where they do not exist, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to Disarmament (SSOD-I). In this context, we welcome the adoption by the United Nations Disarmament Commission at its 1999 session of a document entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned." We also welcome and support the recent adoption by the Mongolian Parliament of legislation on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to the international efforts to strengthen the non-proliferation regime.

75. We reiterate the support for the establishment in the Middle East of a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction. To this end, we reaffirm the need for the speedy establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East in accordance with Security Council resolutions 487 (1981) and 687 (1991) and the relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted by consensus. We call upon all parties concerned to take urgent and practical steps towards the establishment of such a zone and, pending its establishment, we call on Israel, the only country in the region that has not joined the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) nor declared its intention to do so, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, to accede to the NPT without delay, to place promptly all its nuclear facilities under IAEA full-scope safeguards and to conduct its nuclear related activities in conformity with the non-proliferation regime. We express great concern over the acquisition of nuclear capability by Israel which poses a serious and continuing threat to the security of neighbouring and other States and we condemn Israel for continuing to develop and stockpile nuclear arsenals. We are of the view that stability cannot be achieved in a region where massive imbalances in military capabilities are maintained particularly through the possession of nuclear weapons which allow one party to threaten its neighbours and the region. We further welcome the initiative by H.E. Mohammed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, on the establishment of a zone free from weapons of mass destruction in the Middle East. We stress that necessary steps should be taken in different international fora for the establishment of this zone. We also call for the total and complete prohibition of the transfer of all nuclear-related equipment, information, material and facilities, resources or devices and the extension of assistance in the nuclear related scientific or technological fields to Israel. In this regard, we express our serious concern over the recent development whereby Israeli scientists are provided access to the nuclear facilities of one Nuclear Weapon State. This development will have potentially serious negative implications on the regional security as well as the reliability of the global non-proliferation regime.

76. We, the Ministers of the States Parties to the NPT, reiterate our call and the firm commitment by all States parties to the Treaty for the full implementation at the 2000 NPT

Review Conference, of the package agreed to at the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference which comprises of the decision on "Strengthening the review process for the Treaty", the decision on "Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament", the decision on "Extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons", and the "Resolution on the Middle East". We note with appreciation that specific time was made available at the Third Preparatory session for the 2000 Review Conference for the discussion on and consideration of proposals on the provisions in Article VI of the NPT and in paragraphs 3 and 4 (c) of the 1995 decision on "Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament", dealing with nuclear disarmament, as well as on the Resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference. In this context, we reaffirm the importance of the implementation of the call by our Heads of State or Government for the Review Conference to establish a subsidiary body to Main Committee I to deliberate on practical steps for systematic and progressive efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons, as well as a subsidiary body to Main Committee II to consider and recommend proposals on the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the NPT.

77. We note with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology, for peaceful purposes persist. We emphasise that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements. Non-proliferation control arrangements should be transparent and open to participation by all States, and should ensure that they do not impose restrictions on access to material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes required by developing countries for their continued development. In this regard we also express our strong rejection of attempts by any member State to use the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) technical co-operation programme as a tool for political purposes in violation of the IAEA's Statute.

78. We, the Ministers of the States parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) welcome the increasing number of ratifications of the Convention and invite all States who have still not ratified it to do so as soon as possible with the view to its universality. We also underline the urgency of satisfactorily resolving the unresolved issues in the framework of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) with a view to paving the ground for the effective, full and non-discriminatory implementation of the Convention. In this context, we reiterate our call on the developed countries to promote international co-operation through the transfer of technology, material and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field and the removal of all and any discriminatory restrictions that are contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention. We emphasise the need for an urgent conclusion of the relationship agreement between the United Nations and the OPCW, in accordance with the provisions of the CWC.

79. While asserting that the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) inherently precludes the use of biological weapons, we, the Ministers of the States Parties to the Convention recall the decision by the BWC Review Conference that the use by the States Parties, in any way and under any circumstances, of microbial or other biological agents or toxins, that is not consistent with prophylactic, protective or other peaceful purposes, is effectively a violation of Article I of the Convention. We reiterate our conviction that the use of biological weapons, in any way and under any circumstances, is effectively a violation of Article I of the Convention and we express the wish for this issue to be pursued further by the States Parties. We note the progress achieved so far in negotiating a Protocol to strengthen the BWC and reaffirm the decision of the Fourth Review Conference urging the conclusion of

the negotiations by the Ad Hoc Group as soon as possible, before the commencement of the Fifth Review Conference, and for it to submit its report, which shall be adopted by consensus, to the States Parties to consider it at a Special Conference. Therefore artificial deadlines should be avoided. While we also note that there still exist a number of outstanding issues that need to be resolved, we are satisfied with the substantial progress which has been achieved in the negotiations of the Ad Hoc Group, and wish to emphasise that the principle of negotiation on the rolling text provides the methodology for resolving outstanding issues by consensus. Finally, and in this context, we call for flexibility to be shown on the outstanding issues as has already been demonstrated by the positive contributions on key issues made by the NAM and Other States participating in the negotiations, and we call on the Ad Hoc Group to conclude its work at the earliest possible date allowing sufficient time for the steps which would need to be taken for the consideration of the outcome of the Ad Hoc Group's work at a special conference to be held prior to the BWC 2001 Review Conference.

80. We remain deeply concerned over the illicit transfer, manufacture and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation and proliferation in many countries, with destabilising effects. We fully share the regional and international concern that the easy availability of illicit small arms and light weapons escalate conflicts, undermine political stability and have a devastating impact on peace and security. We invite the international community, in co-operation with international and other regional organisations to work together towards resolving the problem of proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons. In this context, we welcome the decision adopted by the 35th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) held in Algiers, Algeria, regarding the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons; the entry into force on 1 July 1998, of the Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials; the decision on prevention and combating of illicit trafficking in small arms and related crimes adopted by the Council of Ministers at the XIX Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Southern African Development Community held in Maputo, Mozambique; the initiative taken by the States members of the Economic Community of West African States in declaring a moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa; the Nairobi Declaration on the Problem of the Proliferation of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa adopted at the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa Conference on the Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 12-15 March 2000 and we encourage similar initiatives in this regard.

81. We express our support for the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects which will be held in 2001, and welcome the establishment of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference which held its first meeting from 28 February – 3 March 2000. We recall that the General Assembly at its 54 Session, in resolution 54/54 V, decided that the scope of the UN Conference will be the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects. We reiterate our call for the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee to utilise the inter-sessional period to conduct open-ended informal consultations in a transparent manner to facilitate the widest possible exchange of views on all issues related to this Conference. We are also in favour of informal inter-sessional meetings prior to the second session on all issues pertaining to the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects provided that such meetings should be held in New York in order to ensure the widest possible participation of States, in particular countries with limited representation, and to ensure continuity in the work of the Preparatory Committee. We invite the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee to submit a report to the

Preparatory Committee at its second session on the outcome of consultations conducted in the inter-sessional period. We stress that the venues of future Preparatory Committee sessions and the Conference should ensure the broadest participation of all Member States of the United Nations, in particular countries with limited representation. In this regard, we take note with appreciation of the offer made by the Republic of Kenya to host one of the future Preparatory Committee Sessions. We believe that the Conference should be chaired by a representative of a country affected by the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons.

82. We deplore the use, in contravention of international humanitarian law, of anti-personnel mines in conflict situations aimed at maiming, killing and terrorising innocent civilians, denying them access to farmland, causing famine and forcing them to flee their homes eventually leading to depopulation and preventing the return of civilians to their place of original residence. We call upon the international community to provide the necessary assistance to landmine clearance operations as well as the rehabilitation of victims and their social and economic reintegration in the landmine affected countries. We further call for international assistance to ensure full access of affected countries to material equipment, technology and financial resources for mine clearance. We also call for increased humanitarian assistance for victims of landmines.

83. We express concern about the residue of the Second World War, particularly in the form of landmines, which have caused human and material damage and obstructed development plans in some Non-Aligned countries. We call on the States responsible for laying the mines outside their territories to co-operate with the affected countries, provide the necessary information, and maps indicating the locations of such mines, technical assistance for their clearance and contribute towards defrayal of the costs of clearance and provide compensation for any ensuing losses.

84. We call on States to become parties to the Convention on Prohibition or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (CCW) and its Protocols, in particular in light of the Review Conference in 2001. We take note of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to the Amended Protocol II to the CCW, realised in Geneva in December 1999 and stress the importance of its effective implementation. We also take note of the realisation of the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, which took place in Maputo, Mozambique in May 1999.

85. We call for an international conference, at the earliest possible date, with the objective of arriving at an agreement on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time to eliminate all nuclear weapons, to prohibit their development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer, use or threat of use, and to provide for their destruction.

86. We reiterate once again our support for the convening of the Fourth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to Disarmament. We express deep concern over the lack of consensus on the deliberations held by the United Nations Disarmament Commission in 1999 on the agenda and objectives. We note that the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and report to the 55th General Assembly on the objectives, agenda and timing of the Special Session. In this regard, we direct the Co-ordinating Bureau to entrust the NAM Working Group on Disarmament with the task of continuing to press for further steps leading to the convening of

the Fourth Special Session with the participation of all Member States of the United Nations as well as the need for SSOD-IV to review and assess the implementation of SSOD-I, while reaffirming its principles and priorities.

Indian Ocean

87. We reaffirm the validity of the objectives of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. We reaffirm the importance of international co-operation to ensure peace, security and stability in the Indian Ocean region. We note that greater efforts and more time are required to facilitate a focused discussion on practical measures to ensure conditions of peace, security and stability in the region. We also note that in light of resolution 54/47 of the United Nations General Assembly, the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean will continue his informal consultations on the future work of the Committee.

Terrorism

88. We are greatly concerned over acts of terrorism which, under various pretexts and disguises, result in the most flagrant violation of international law including international humanitarian law, and seek to destabilise the prevailing constitutional order and political unity of sovereign States. We declare that terrorism also affects the stability of nations and the very basis of societies especially pluralistic societies and impedes the full enjoyment of the human rights of peoples. We condemn all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as unjustifiable whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them.

89. We welcome with satisfaction the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (UNGA resolution 49/60), the Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and urge that they be implemented. We reiterate our condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, as they have adverse consequences, inter alia, on the economic and social development of States. We declare that terrorism also affects the stability of nations and the very basis of societies, especially pluralistic societies. We reiterate the need for the urgent conclusion and the effective implementation of a comprehensive convention for combating international terrorism. In the light of the previous initiatives adopted by NAM, we call for an International Summit Conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organised response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. We welcome with satisfaction the UN General Assembly resolution 54/110 which decided that the ad hoc Committee on Terrorism established by resolution 51/210, shall consider the elaboration of a comprehensive convention on international terrorism, and shall address the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the UN to formulate a joint organised response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. We further call upon all States to support these initiatives as elaborated above.

90. We reaffirm that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for whatever purposes are, in any circumstance, unjustifiable, whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them.

91. We reaffirm the Movement's principled position under the international law on the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for national

liberation and self-determination, which does not constitute terrorism and we call once again for the definition of terrorism to differentiate it from the legitimate struggle of peoples under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation, for self-determination and national liberation.

92. We urge all States to co-operate to enhance international co-operation in the fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and, wherever, by whoever, against whomsoever it occurs, at the national, regional and international levels, and to observe and implement the relevant international and bilateral instruments, taking into account the Final Document of the UN Conference on the Prevention of Crime and Criminal Justice held in Cairo in 1995.

93. We emphasise that international co-operation to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the United Nations Charter, international law and relevant international conventions, and express our opposition to selective and unilateral actions in violation of principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter. In this context, we call upon the competent United Nations Organs to promote ways and means to strengthen co-operation, including the international legal regime for combating international terrorism.

94. We welcome the adoption of the Convention of the Organisation of African Unity on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism by the Heads of State and Government of the OAU at the Algiers Summit in July 1999, as a positive step in developing a comprehensive legal framework for regional co-operation in combating terrorism and welcome the entry into force of the Arab Convention to Combat Terrorism on 7 May 1999. We also welcome the organisation of the Islamic Conference Convention on Combating International Terrorism adopted by the OIC Ministerial Conference held in Ouagadougou from 28 June to 1 July 1999.

95. We reiterate that all States are under the obligation pursuant to the purposes and principles and other provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and other relevant international instruments, codes of conduct and other rules of international law to refrain from organising, assisting or participating in terrorist acts in the territories of other States or acquiescing in or encouraging activities within their territories directed towards the commission of such acts, including allowing the use of national territories and territories under their jurisdiction for planning and training for that purpose. We solemnly reaffirm our unequivocal condemnation of any political, diplomatic, moral or material support for terrorism. We also call on all States to adhere to and implement existing international conventions against terrorism.

Mercenaries

96. We reiterate our belief that mercenarism, in all its forms, constitutes an obstacle to peace and the exercise of sovereignty by Non-Aligned Countries and endangers the national security of States, especially small States as well as the safety and stability of multi-ethnic States, and impedes the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination. We urge all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take appropriate legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control are not used for recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to destabilise or overthrow the Government or threaten the territorial integrity and political unity of sovereign States.

International Law

97. We recall the Declaration on the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court by the NAM Ministerial Meeting of the

Co-ordinating Bureau. We take note of the ongoing discussions in the Preparatory Commission and we stress the need to ensure, during the work of the Preparatory Commission, that the Court is impartial and independent of political organs of the United Nations which should not direct or hinder the functions of the Court nor assume a parallel or superior role to the Court. We also note the importance of safeguarding the integrity of the Statute of the Court, in particular during the work of the Preparatory Commission and emphasise the need to take the necessary measures to ensure the coming into operation of the International Criminal Court.

98. We note the conclusion by the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court of its second reading of the Elements of Crimes and the Rules of Procedure and Evidence. We call on all States to work together to ensure the timely completion of the mandate of the Preparatory Commission in particular with regard to the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and the Elements of Crimes. We also emphasise the need to conclude the ongoing work of the Preparatory Commission with respect to the crime of aggression, which is an important part of the Statute. In this regard, we urge the active and consistent participation of the members of NAM in the Working Group in all issues, particularly with regard to arriving at an acceptable definition of this serious crime.

99. We stress our serious concern on the intention of a group of States to unilaterally re-interpret or re-draft the existing legal instruments in accordance with their own views and interests. We emphasise that the integrity of legal instruments by Member States must be maintained. We also express our deep concern at the most recent experiences in the election of several Treaty Bodies, which resulted in a loss of seats of experts from the Non-Aligned Countries, which resulted in an unbalanced representation of all regions at these bodies. We call upon the Non-Aligned Countries that are parties to the relevant legal treaties to work together in order to redress this anomaly, and underline the need for a more active solidarity and unity among the Non-Aligned Countries by supporting the candidatures of experts from the Non-Aligned Countries.

100. We emphasise the need for a renewal of commitment by the international community to uphold and defend the principles of the UN Charter, the international law, international humanitarian law, and the International Court of Justice as well as the means envisaged in the UN Charter for the pacific settlement of disputes. The Charter refers to the International Court of Justice as the Organisation's principal judicial organ. The Security Council should make greater use of the World Court as a source of advisory opinions, and in controversial instances, use it as a source of interpreting relevant international law.

101. We remain firmly opposed to evaluations, certifications and other coercive unilateral measures as a means of exerting pressure on Non-Aligned Countries and other developing countries. Coercive unilateral measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the United Nations Charter and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among states and thus are to be further decried by the international community. We reject the increasing trend in this direction. We strongly object to the extra-territorial nature of those measures, which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States and we call on States applying unilateral coercive measures to put an immediate end to those measures.

102. We condemn the continued unilateral application, by certain powers, of coercive economic and other measures, including the enactment of extra-territorial laws, against a number of developing countries, with a view to preventing these countries from exercising their right to decide, by their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems.

We call on all countries not to recognise the unilateral extra-territorial laws enacted by certain countries, which impose sanctions on other States and foreign companies and individuals. We reaffirm that such legislation contradict norms of international law and run counter to the principles and purposes of the United Nations.

103. We call on all States to refrain from adopting or implementing extra-territorial or unilateral measures of coercion as means of exerting pressure on Non-Aligned and other developing countries. We note that measures such as Helms-Burton Law, D'Amato-Kennedy Acts and other laws recently enacted related to other issues, constitute violations of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, and call on the international community to take effective action in order to arrest this trend.

104. We reaffirm the position taken by the XII Summit in Durban on the air attack carried out by the United States government against the Al-Shifa Pharmaceutical Plant in the Sudan on 20 August 1998.

Peaceful settlement of disputes

105. We emphasise the need for a renewal of commitment by the international community to uphold and defend the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law as well as the means envisaged in the United Nations Charter for the pacific settlement of disputes. The role of the Movement in promoting a just international order would largely depend on its inner strength, unity and cohesion. It is therefore, incumbent on all Member Countries to work earnestly towards promoting the solidarity and unity of the Movement.

106. We recall the decisions of the Cartagena Summit to mandate the Co-ordinating Bureau to study further the question of a mechanism for peaceful settlement of disputes between Member Countries, including proposals made and positions expressed at the Summit and to report to the Committee on Methodology. We note that this study has yet to be submitted.

Culture of Peace

107. We welcome the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration and Programme of Action on the Culture of Peace. We call upon states, governments, organisations and peoples to promote a culture of peace based on respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs of states, the principles of international relations established in the Charter of the UN, full realisation of the right to development, democracy, tolerance, economic and social development, human rights, elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, foreign occupation, allowing free flow of information, gender mainstreaming, prevention of violence and promotion of non-violence for the creation of an environment of peace and for its consolidation.

108. In this context, we welcome again the proclamation of the year 2000 as the international year for the culture of peace and invite Member States to adopt all necessary measures to commemorate this Year, according to the principles and objectives of the Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace. We also welcome the proclamation of the period 2001 to 2010 as the international decade for the culture of peace and non-violence for the children of the world.

CHAPTER II: ANALYSIS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Palestine

109. We reaffirm the positions taken by the XII Summit in Durban on the Question of Palestine and the Situation in the Middle East. We unequivocally support the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homeland and to have their own independent State with Jerusalem as its capital, and we reiterate our demand for the withdrawal of Israel, the occupying Power, from all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the other Arab territories occupied since 1967. We call for the implementation of all United Nations resolutions on the question of Palestine, and reaffirm the permanent responsibility of the United Nations towards the question of Palestine until it is effectively solved in all its aspects.

110. We reaffirm the Movement's position on Occupied East Jerusalem, including on illegal Israeli actions aimed at changing the legal status and demographic composition of the city, the illegal Israeli settlements and the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to all the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem. We demand that Israel, the occupying Power, implement Security Council resolutions in this regard and abide by its legal obligations. We welcome the convening of the conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on Measures to Enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem on 15 July 1999, as recommended by the resolutions of the 10th Emergency Special Session of the General Assembly. We further welcome the important statement by the Conference, which reaffirms the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and we reiterate support for the reconvening of the Conference should the need arise. We reiterate that Israeli representation in the work of the General Assembly must be in conformity with international law, thus ensuring that Israeli credentials do not cover the territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem. We urge that meetings of international organisations shall not be convened in occupied Jerusalem. We reaffirm our support for the Bethlehem 2000 Project in the Palestinian city of Bethlehem and express confidence that the increased assistance and engagement of the international community will ensure the successful commemoration of the event.

Syrian Golan

111. We reaffirm that all measures and actions taken, or to be taken by Israel, the occupying power, such as its illegal decision of 14 December 1981 that purports to alter the legal, physical and demographic status of the occupied Syrian Golan and its institutional structure, as well as the Israeli measures to apply its jurisdiction and administration there, are null and void. We also reaffirm that all such measures and actions constitute a flagrant violation of international law, international conventions, the Charter and decisions of the United Nations, particularly Security Council resolution 497 (1981), the Fourth Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 on the protection of civilians in time of war, and the defiance of will of the international community. We demand that Israel comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981) and withdraw fully from the occupied Syrian Golan, to the lines of 4 June 1967, in implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, and that Israel adheres to the Madrid terms of reference based on the principle of land for peace, which are in their entirety considered to be a primary and basic element in the negotiation process that should be adhered to, including the immediate commencement of the demarcation of the 4 June 1967 line.

112. We reaffirm our unwavering support and solidarity with the Syrian just demand and rights to restore the full Syrian sovereignty over the occupied Syrian Golan on the basis of the terms of reference of the Madrid peace process, the decisions of the international legitimacy, as well as the principle of land for peace. We demand that Israel respect all commitments and pledges it entered into with the aim of laying down the basis for a substantive progress on the Syrian-Israeli track.

Lebanon

113. While expressing our deep concern over the continued Israeli aggression against Lebanon, and the ensuing illegal detainment of Lebanese nationals, loss of civilian lives and extensive destruction of property and infrastructure, we call on Israel to withdraw immediately, completely and unconditionally from South Lebanon and the Western Bekaa to the internationally recognised boundaries in compliance with Security Council resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) and to fully and strictly respect the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon. We also maintain that any conditions put forward by Israel for the implementation of resolution 425 (1978) would alter its legal and political structure and are hence unacceptable.

The Peace Process

114. We reaffirm the need to achieve comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East. We affirm our determination to actively strive towards the attainment of this objective. We reiterate our support for the Middle East Peace Process based on Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425 and the principle of land for peace. We further reiterate the need for compliance with and implementation of the agreements reached between the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel as well as the fulfilment of the commitments and pledges made in accordance with the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the ensuing negotiations. We reiterate the need to fully respect and adhere to the September 2000 deadline set for the achievement of the final settlement. In this context we believe that the United Nations Millennium Summit should serve as an additional and natural deadline in which Palestine should participate as a UN Member State. We express our grave concern over the current state of affairs in the peace process, particularly the recent disruption of this process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks. In this regard, we consider the attempts by the Israeli Government to change the terms of reference of the peace process and create a new reality on the ground, as well as its failure to give priority to the core questions, to be an obstacle on the way of realisation of peace.

115. In view of the urgency and seriousness of the situation, we request the Non-Aligned Movement Countries to increase pressure and use all available measures on regional and international level to ensure Israel's compliance with the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the principle of land for peace and Israel's full implementation of all agreements, undertakings, and commitments reached by the concerned parties on all tracks during the peace talks. We also affirm that the failure by the Israeli Government to respond positively would require the Non-Aligned Movement Members to take further appropriate measures.

AFRICA

116. On the situation in Africa, we welcome the establishment of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa as called for in the General Assembly resolution 53/92. We urge all members, in particular African countries, to actively and constructively participate in the activities of the working group. We recommend that the General Assembly, the United Nations system, Bretton Woods institutions and other appropriate bodies consider the Secretary-General's report and follow up on the recommendations contained therein in accordance with the priorities of African countries.

117. We reaffirm the existence of an intrinsic link between peace and development, which requires an integrated approach to conflict prevention, resolution and management. In this regard we commend the efforts undertaken by African countries towards the resolution of incipient and persistent conflicts in the continent and call on the United Nations and the international community to support these efforts as well as social and economic development.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

118. We express our deep concern regarding the situation prevailing in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We regret the violations of the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement by some parties, and we condemn the ensuing generalised resumption of fighting. We welcome the Security Council decision to authorise expansion of the UN Observer Mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) and reiterate the importance and validity of the Lusaka Cease-fire Agreement of 10 July 1999 as being a fundamental tool in reaching a peaceful settlement to the conflict in this country. We urge the UN Security Council to speedily deploy the UN Peace-Keeping Force in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and we call on all parties to rapidly implement the process that should lead to the orderly withdrawal of foreign troops from the Congo territory and promote a solution to the internal problems in this country. We further call upon the parties to the conflict to fully co-operate with the facilitator of the National Dialogue in a way to ensure success of the National Dialogue, and for the international community to provide financial resources into the UN Trust Fund to enable the facilitator to complete his task.

Somalia

119. We note with concern the lack of progress in the resolution of the crisis of Somalia. We reiterate the call that all Somali factional leaders co-operate in the search of a comprehensive and durable peace in Somalia by adhering to the various agreements reached over the past years, in particular the agreements concluded at Sodere (Ethiopia), Nairobi and Sanaa.

120. We welcome the Cairo Accord signed in Cairo by the Somali Factions in December 1997, and note the outcome of the Addis Ababa Meeting of the National Salvation Council held in January 1998.

121. We reiterate our full support for all efforts made by the international community, including regional actors, in particular the countries of IGAD, to assist in the resolution of the problem of Somalia. In this context, we stress the need for co-ordination of all efforts for peace in Somalia with the regional initiative of IGAD.

122. We welcome the initiative of the President of Djibouti aimed at restoring peace and stability in Somalia and we endorse the call for the faction leaders to recognise and accept

the principle that Somalis are free to democratically choose their own regional and national leaders. We call on all states to observe and improve the effectiveness of the arms embargo and to refrain from any action that might exacerbate the situation in Somalia.

123. We reiterate our full support for the efforts of the United Nations, the OAU, the Arab League, and the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to assist in the resolution of the crisis in Somalia. We call upon the United Nations Secretary-General to assist in peace efforts in Somalia.

124. We express serious concern at the spiralling violence and increased insecurity arising from the intensification of intra and inter-clan disputes, and call upon the Somali faction leaders to make a determined effort to bring an end to these intra and inter-clan disputes, which have led to death and destruction of property and threaten to undermine humanitarian relief deliveries and impede the advancement of the peace and national reconciliation process in Somalia.

125. We appeal to the international community to provide humanitarian, economic and reconstruction assistance to the people of Somalia in a well-calibrated manner and with the goal of advancing the peace process and strengthening constituencies for peace.

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

126. On the Lockerbie question, we recall the positions of the Movement as outlined in the Final Document of the XII Summit held in Durban in September 1998, and express our satisfaction over the courageous decision of the authorities of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to encourage the two Libyan suspects to stand trial before the Scottish Court sitting in the Netherlands, and support the Jamahiriya' s demand for adequate guarantees and conditions to ensure a just and fair trial for the two suspects.

127. We take note of the prompt and unanimous response of the Security Council to steps taken by Libya to bring this matter to a close. In taking these steps, Libya has now fulfilled all its obligations in terms of Security Council resolutions 731 (1992), 748 (1992), 883 (1993) and 1192 (1998) as well as the requirements of resolution 731 (1992). We therefore urge the Security Council to adopt a resolution lifting completely the sanctions against Libya. We support the right of Libya for compensation of the damages it suffered as a result of the sanctions. We also call for the immediate lifting of all unilateral sanctions imposed against Libya outside of the United Nations regime.

128. We express the view, now that the legal process has gone before the Scottish Court as agreed by all parties concerned, that the politicisation, in any form and by any party whatever, and making demands before a final judgement is pronounced in this legal dispute would be unacceptable. Furthermore, inasmuch as the matter is sub-judice, all parties must comply with whatever verdict is reached by the Scottish Court convened in the Netherlands.

Angola

129. We note with satisfaction the recent positive developments in Angola, particularly the extension of the government authority and administration throughout the country. We take note of the report of the panel of experts of the United Nations Security Council on Angola and urge the Security Council to adopt the report and pass a resolution on the recommendations contained therein. We believe that action by the Security Council provides

the legal basis for outlawing any type of support that UNITA is receiving and will send a clear sign to Mr. Savimbi that he is isolated and the international community can no longer tolerate his actions. We welcome the efforts of the Angolan government to take the necessary and appropriate measures for the reestablishment of security and stability all over the national territory and for the preparation of free and fair democratic elections by the year 2001. We appeal to the international community to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the people of Angola, and to support the Angolan government efforts in the consolidation of its democratic institutions.

Ethiopia and Eritrea

130. We firmly support the mediation efforts being undertaken by the OAU, and its current chairman, President Abdelaziz Bouteflika of Algeria, and appeal to Ethiopia and Eritrea to continue to co-operate fully in the search for a peaceful, fair and lasting solution to the dispute.

Sierra Leone

131. We take note of the important measures adopted by the Government of Sierra Leone and by the United Revolutionary Front in order to guarantee the application of the Peace Agreement signed in Lomé on 7 July 1999, which provides Sierra Leone's people with the opportunity to put an end, in a definite way, to the conflict in that country. We salute the initiatives and actions taken by the Heads of State and Government of the ECOWAS aimed at establishing and consolidating peace in Sierra Leone. We commend the Military Observer Group of the ECOWAS (ECOMOG) and the UN Observer Mission in Sierra Leone (UNOMSIL) for their outstanding contribution to the achievement of this same objective. At the same time, we welcome the creation of the new Mission of the United Nations in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), the agreement which replaces the UNOMSIL, with the mandate to co-operate with the Government of Sierra Leone and the other parties in order to implement the Peace Agreement. We call on all the parties to fully respect the Lomé Accords and the other subsequent accords in order to restore peace in Sierra Leone, and to respect the mandate of UNAMSIL as stipulated by the Security Council. We instantly invite the international community to continue to provide help and assistance to Sierra Leone, with a view to the reconstruction of the country.

Western Sahara

132. Noting the latest progress in resolving the question of Western Sahara, we reiterate the support of the Movement for the efforts of the United Nations to organise and supervise an impartial, free and fair referendum in accordance with the Settlement Plan, the Houston Agreements and with relevant Security Council and United Nations resolutions.

Chagos Archipelago

133. We reaffirm that Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, is an integral part of the sovereign territory of the Republic of Mauritius. In this regard, we call again on the former colonial power to pursue constructive dialogue expeditiously with Mauritius for the early return of Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, to the sovereignty of the Republic of Mauritius.

ASIA

Iraq - Kuwait

134. Regarding the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, we emphasise that all Member Countries in the Movement are committed to respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of both Kuwait and Iraq. We also emphasise that the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions constitutes the means of establishing peace, security and stability in the region. In this respect, we stress the importance of Iraq to its completion of implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions.

135. We stress the need to resolve expeditiously the fate of all prisoners/detainees and missing persons of Kuwait and third country nationals by means of serious and sincere co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross to reach a solution of this particular issue and to return the properties of the Government of Kuwait including official documents removed from national archives seized by Iraq. In this respect, we recall the appointment of Mr. Yuliy Vorontsov by the Secretary-General as the High Level Co-ordinator to follow-up the release of Kuwaiti and third country prisoners/detainees and the return of Kuwaiti property seized by Iraq.

Iraq

136. We deplore the imposition and continued military enforcement of "No-Fly Zones" on Iraq by individual countries without any authorisation from the United Nations Security Council or General Assembly. In this respect, we recall the statement on the situation in Iraq issued by the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries on 17 December 1998, which was issued as a document of UNGA (A/53/762).

137. We strongly condemn the repeated actions of Turkish armed forces violating the territorial integrity of Iraq under the pretext of fighting guerrilla elements hiding inside Iraqi territory. These actions of Turkish armed forces constitute stark illegal violations of the international boundaries mutually recognised between the two countries and a threat to regional and international peace and security. We also reject the so-called "hot-pursuit" measures adopted by Turkey to justify such actions that are abhorrent to international law and to the norms of practice amongst States.

138. We note with deep concern the continuing deterioration of the humanitarian conditions of the Iraqi population due to sanctions. Based upon the principles and decisions of the Movement, we urge Member Countries of the Movement to deploy their efforts to halt this tragedy and help in lifting the sanctions as soon as possible in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions.

139. We stress the need to work diligently towards resolving the fate of more than 1,150 Iraqi civilians and military personnel who went missing after the military actions of 1991, and whose individual files have been submitted to the ICRC. We also urge that help be extended to Iraq through UNESCO and the other competent bodies for the restoration of all objects of art and antiquity stolen or smuggled out of Iraq during past years.

Korean Peninsula

140. We are deeply concerned over the fact that the Korean Peninsula still remains divided in spite of the desires and aspirations of the Korean people for reunification, and reaffirm the support to the Korean people to reunify their homeland in accordance with the three

principles set forth in the North-South Joint Statement on 4 July 1972 and through dialogue and negotiations on the basis of the Agreement on Reconciliation, Non-Aggression, and co-operation and Exchange between the North and South concluded in February 1992. We consider the importance of guaranteeing a durable peace and security in the Korean Peninsula for the sake of the common prosperity of the Korean People as well as peace and security in North-East Asia and the rest of the world.

Afghanistan

141. Recalling paragraphs 245–251 of the Final Document adopted by the XII NAM Summit at Durban, paragraph 97 of the Final Communiqué of the Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of NAM held on 23 September 1999, the UNGA resolutions 53/203, 54/185, and 54/189, UNSC resolutions 1214 of 8 December 1998 and 1267 of 15 October 1999, Presidential Statements of the Security Council of 22 October 1999 and 7 April 2000, the press statements by the President of the Security Council on 5 August 1999 and 3 March 2000, and while reiterating our commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, we call upon all States concerned to immediately end the supply of arms, ammunition, military equipment, training or other military support to all parties to the conflict in Afghanistan, including the presence and involvement of all foreign military personnel. We express serious concern over the military offensives immediately after the Tashkent meeting of "six plus two" group and the recent offensives during March 2000, launched by the Taliban, in defiance of appeals by the international community, condemn the forceful displacement of civilians in Afghanistan as a gross violation of international humanitarian law. We are convinced, as the recent developments in the battlefield clearly demonstrated, that there is no military solution to the Afghan conflict and call upon all Afghan parties to cease immediately all armed hostilities, to renounce the use of force and to engage, without preconditions, in a genuine and serious political dialogue aimed at achieving a lasting political settlement acceptable to all Afghans. We note with concern the report of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Afghanistan. We welcome the initiative taken by H.E. President Mohammad Khatami of Iran in his capacity as the Chairman of the VIII Islamic Summit in sending a delegation of OIC to a number of countries in the region with the purpose of developing, in line with the central peace-making role of the United Nations, a comprehensive, commonly agreeable plan of action to achieve peace in Afghanistan. We reaffirm that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in international efforts towards a peaceful resolution of the Afghan conflict. We reaffirm the need for creating a broad based, multi-ethnic and fully representative government by the Afghans themselves, which would protect the rights of all Afghans and observe the international obligations of Afghanistan. We express concern over actions undermining the security of State frontiers. We condemn the murder of Iranian diplomats and a journalist in the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Mazar-e-Sharif by the Taliban forces and note with disappointment the delay by the Taliban to fulfil its obligation, investigate, and help to bring those responsible for this tragedy and for the killing of UN officials to justice.

142. We strongly condemn the continuing use of Afghan territory, especially areas controlled by the Taliban, for the sheltering and training of terrorists and planning of terrorist acts, and reaffirm our conviction that the suppression of international terrorism is essential for the maintenance of international peace and security. We insist that the Taliban cease the provision of sanctuary and training for international terrorists and their organisations, take effective measures to ensure that the territory under its control is not used for terrorist installations and camps or for the preparation or organisation of terrorist acts against other States or their citizens, and co-operate with efforts to bring indicted terrorists to justice.

143. We are deeply disturbed also by a significant increase in the cultivation, production and trafficking of drugs in Afghanistan, especially in areas controlled by the Taliban, which will contribute to the war-making capabilities of the Afghans and will have even more serious international consequences. We demand that the Taliban, as well as others, halt all illegal drug activities. We call upon Member States, in particular those neighbouring Afghanistan, and all others concerned to undertake concerted measures to stop the trafficking of illegal drugs from Afghanistan.

South-East Asia

144. We recognise the important role of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in maintaining peace, stability and prosperity in the region and in enhancing co-operation in the wider Asia-Pacific region. We also recognise the role of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in promoting political security dialogue and mutual confidence among its participants. We welcome the progress of ASEAN continuing efforts to realise the objective of establishing a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality in Southeast Asia (ZOPFAN) and the convening of the first meeting of the Commission of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (SEANWFZ) in July 1999. We encourage all nuclear-weapon States to extend their support and co-operation to the SEANWFZ Treaty, in July 1999 by acceding to its Protocol. We consider the admission of Cambodia in ASEAN in July 1999 as a significant milestone in ASEAN fulfilment of its vision and making all the countries of the Southeast Asian region as part of a single community. We welcome the commitment made by the leaders of ASEAN and three countries in the North-East Asian region to enhance interaction and establish linkages in order to increase opportunities for close co-operation and collaboration with each other, thereby strengthening the elements essential for the promotion of peace, stability and prosperity in the East Asian region.

145. We reiterate our call to solve all sovereignty and territorial disputes in the South China Sea by peaceful means without resorting to force and/or threat to use force, and urge all parties to exercise restraint with a view to creating a positive climate for the eventual resolution of all contentious issues. We express concern over recent developments that may lead to a deterioration of peace and stability in the region. In this context, we express support for the principles contained in the 1992 ASEAN Declaration on the South China Sea, and stress the need for the full implementation of such principles by all concerned. We express the hope that all concerned would refrain from further actions that may undermine peace, stability, trust and confidence in the region, including possibly undermining freedom of navigation and aviation in affected areas. We urge all claimants to address the issue in various bilateral and multilateral fora and in this regard reiterate the significance of promoting all types of confidence building measures among all parties. To this end, we recognise the positive contribution of the on-going bilateral and multilateral consultations among the parties concerned at the intergovernmental level, the extensive consultations at the ASEAN-China Dialogue, including the consultations to conclude a regional code of conduct in the South China Sea, the regular exchange of views in the ARF, and the on-going informal Workshops on Managing Potential Conflicts in the South China Sea and encourage their continuance.

EUROPE

Cyprus

146. We reaffirm all previous positions and declarations of the NAM on the question of Cyprus. The Movement considers the present status quo in Cyprus, established through the use of force

and sustained by military strength, as unacceptable and is deeply concerned over the lack of progress in the search for a just and viable solution to this long-lasting question, primarily due to Turkish intransigence. Efforts towards finding a just and viable solution to the Cyprus problem, based on the implementation of all United Nations resolutions and NAM's decisions on Cyprus, in accordance with the principles and positions of the United Nations Charter and the rule of international law, must be intensified. The Movement considers any attempt for a change of the basis of the inter-communal dialogue held under the mandate of the Secretary-General, as unacceptable. In this regard, the Movement welcomes the two recent rounds of proximity talks held under UN auspices, following the invitation of the UN Secretary-General as called for by the relevant Security Council resolutions. The Movement urges both sides to participate in the next round of talks to be held in May, in a positive and constructive spirit in order to pave the way for a solution to this long overdue problem.

Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean

147. On developments in the Mediterranean region, we reiterate our determination to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations in the promotion of comprehensive and equitable co-operation in the region towards resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region, in the elimination of the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security. Respect for the right to self-determination, elimination of foreign occupation and foreign bases and fleets, non-interference in the internal affairs and respect for the sovereignty of States are prerequisites for the establishment of peace and stability in the Mediterranean region.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Cuba

148. We call upon the Government of the United States of America to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba which, in addition to being unilateral and contrary to the UN Charter and International Law, and to the principle of neighbourliness, cause huge material losses and economic damage to the people of Cuba. We request once again strict compliance with the resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21 of the United Nations General Assembly. We express deep concern over the widening of the extra-territorial nature of the embargo against Cuba and over continuous new legislative measure geared to intensifying it. We also urge the US Government to return the territory now occupied by the Guantanamo Naval Base to Cuban sovereignty and to put an end to aggressive radio and TV transmission against Cuba.

Ecuador and Peru

149. We welcome the significant progress accomplished by the Governments of Peru and Ecuador in the implementation of the peace agreements signed in Brasilia, and call upon the international community to continue to participate actively in the financing of projects being implemented by both countries, for the development of their border regions. Within the same context, we also welcome the recent signing of bilateral agreements by countries of the region, which constitute a matter of significant relevance within the current context of integration and trust among the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean. These agreements contribute in a meaningful way towards the strengthening of the rule of international law and the consolidation of a regional political scenario of peace, friendship, co-operation and development.

Panama

150. We take note with satisfaction that the transfer of the Panama Canal from the United States of America to Panama, as provided in the Panama Canal Treaty, was completed in December 1999. We express our appreciation for the Panamanian people for this historic achievement. We also note with satisfaction the measures by the Government of Panama for the purpose of continuing to guarantee the efficient functioning of the Canal and its uninterrupted use by ships of all nations. We recognise the importance of the peaceful and secure use of the Canal to world commerce and navigation, and in that context, we underline the importance of its policy of neutrality.

Belize-Guatemala

151. We recall that the Movement has closely followed the development in the Belize-Guatemala territorial dispute and the Movement's consistent expressions of support to Belize in this regard. We are mindful of the fundamental principles of the Movement, which uphold respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. Aware of the resumption of bilateral talks on this issue, we call on both parties to continue the process of dialogue aimed at the early and peaceful resolution of their differences, in accordance with the principles of international law.

Guyana and Venezuela

152. We take note of the firm commitment of Guyana and Venezuela to peacefully resolve the controversy, which exists between them. In this regard, we fully support the parties in their decision to continue to avail themselves of the good offices of the United Nations Secretary-General and his Special Representative in order to reach a final settlement as called for by the Geneva Agreement of 1966. We welcome the initiative undertaken by the two countries to enhance functional co-operation by the establishment in March 1999 of a High-Level Bilateral Commission.

CHAPTER III: ECONOMIC ISSUES

Globalisation and interdependence

153. The emerging global economy continues to be characterised by rapid growth in flows of trade, finance, information and technology, which has led to increased interdependence among countries. Countries interact with the global economy from vastly different levels of development and, accordingly, the impact of globalisation and liberalisation is highly uneven. While the current trend has lead to increasing economic opportunity for some developing economies, it is evident that a large number of member countries of the Non-Aligned Movement, particularly in Africa, continue to be marginalised and thus unable to fully share the benefits of these processes. We are deeply concerned that most developing countries continue to face problems of access to markets, capital and technology and many grapple with the structural transformation necessary for practical and meaningful integration into the world economy. Since the ability to exploit new opportunities depends on the economic, technological trade, industrial and institutional capacities to enter the global markets, globalisation deepens the technological, financial and productive gap between the developed and developing countries. Hence, we strongly believe that the central focus of international development efforts should be in the creation of an enabling international environment where developing countries will be able to acquire the requisite capacities to successfully compete and fully benefit from globalisation.

154. We welcome the adoption of UNGA resolution 54/231 on Globalisation and Interdependence which reaffirms the central role that the United Nations has to play in promoting international co-operation for development in the context of globalisation and interdependence, and strongly stress the need for a better and more effective collaboration between the UN, the Bretton Woods Institutions and the World Trade Organisation, to promote co-ordination on economic, financial, technological trade and development issues at the global level to help developing countries benefit from this economic atmosphere. We emphasise that the international trade and financial institutions must take full account of the decisions by the UN and to ensure that their policies do not run counter to developmental objectives of NAM and other developing countries.

155. We reaffirm the need to establish an open, rule-based, accountable, predictable, just, equitable, comprehensive, development oriented and non-discriminatory global system of economic relations, especially at a time when developing countries are actively engaged in the process of liberalisation and integration into the global economy. We further stress that the process of globalisation and any multilateral negotiations on agriculture must take fully into account concerns and special needs, including those related to food security and rural employment, of developing countries, which are large predominantly agrarian economies.

156. We are deeply concerned over the fact that developing countries are shouldering a disproportionate share of the adjustment burden, taking into consideration the rapid changes and transformations of the world economy. We are equally concerned that the gap between rich and poor countries continues to widen. There is also a need for equity in international economic relations to reverse the growing disparities between rich and poor, both among and within countries through inter alia, the eradication of poverty, expansion of productive employment and enhancement of social integration.

157. Noting the interdependence of nations and the varying levels of human development world-wide, we stress the need for a New Global Human Order aimed at reversing the growing disparities between rich and poor, both among and within countries through the

alleviation of poverty, the expansion of productive employment and the promotion of social integration.

158. The empirical record shows, among others, that the income gap between developed and developing countries has widened. Even those countries, which seem to have well to globalisation were most seriously affected by the Asian financial crises. It is clear that there is no automatic process by which income levels of developing countries will converge to those of developed nations. The challenge before the international community is to ensure that globalisation should take into account the development dimension.

159. We note that growth in some developing countries is contributing significantly to the locomotive forces of world economic growth and thus the process of global integration of developing countries is paying dividends to the industrialised countries as well. However, we regret that the voice of developing countries in decision-making still does not realistically reflect their emergence as important actors in the world economy. We therefore urge developed countries to give this cumulative contribution and role meaningful and commensurate recognition. The participation of developing countries in global economic decision-making, particularly in the international financial institutions, as well as in trade and other economic areas, should thus be enhanced. We reaffirm the need for such democratisation and transparency in international economic and financial decision-making in all fora and at all levels, with the full participation of developing countries so as to ensure that their development interests would be finally taken into account. Beginning of a new century represents an opportunity to establish a process which will focus on reforming international decision-making and mechanisms on monetary, financial and trade issues, in order to make them more responsive to the needs of developing countries. NAM will look forward to that process and proposals to that end should be developed and studied. In this regard, we underline the need for the development of proposals by Members of the Movement.

160. We note the global trends in mergers and acquisitions of transnational companies, and are concerned they could lead to a situation of oligopolies, which may also end up as monopolies, with adverse implications for global producers and consumers, including its adverse impact on developing countries, local industries and companies.

Revitalising International Co-operation for Development

161. The reactivation and strengthening of international co-operation for development is necessary in order to facilitate an increased participation by developing countries in the world economy on terms, which are beneficial to them and promote their developmental efforts. In this context, we call for a renewed emphasis on technical assistance in the development co-operation programmes of the UN system, including specialised international agencies. There is also a need for more effective and enhanced participation in the world economy by developing countries, notably in the international and economic decisions and rule-making. In this regard, the accession of developing countries applying for membership to the WTO should be facilitated without linking it to any political and/or economic considerations with a view to ensuring WTO' s universality as well as its non-discriminatory character. We reaffirm the need for developing countries to have result-oriented consultations among themselves to promote more effective participation in WTO.

162. We emphasise that the achievement of the objectives of poverty eradication, economic and social progress, sustained economic growth and sustainable development depends on a more favourable and dynamic international economic environment and revitalised international

development co-operation supportive of developing countries' efforts. While subscribing to the values of environmental protection, labour standards, intellectual property protection, sound macro-economic management and promotion and protection of all human rights, we totally reject all attempts to use these issues as conditionalities and pretexts for restricting market access or aid and technology flows to developing countries or linking them to the multilateral trade negotiations.

163. We express concern at the continuing decline in the availability of core resources to UN funds and programmes, especially UNDP and UNFPA, and underline that in the area of development assistance provision of new and additional financial resources provided by developed countries taking into account the needs and priorities of the developing countries, without any conditionality and fully respecting the fundamental characteristics of the UN operational activities, is an imperative.

164. We are concerned over the evident lack of political will on the part of developed countries to revitalise international co-operation for development. We are convinced that ODA continues to constitute an important source of financial flows for many developing countries, particularly LDCs. In this context, we are deeply concerned over the continued decline of the official development assistance and call on the developed countries to ensure the fulfilment of their commitment to meet the United Nations target of 0.7% of their GNP as official development assistance for all the developing countries latest by the end of the first decade of the twenty first century, as well as to meet the UN target of 0.15% of their GNP to LDCs as soon as possible.

165. We also emphasise the importance of dialogue on strengthening international co-operation for development through partnership based on the mutuality of interests and benefits, common but differentiated responsibilities and genuine interdependence. We strongly believe that the dialogue should serve as a useful forum to discuss emerging global issues to strengthen international co-operation for development through genuine partnership. We underscore the need for active participation of the members of the Movement in the process leading to the next dialogue to be held in the year 2001 which theme will be "Responding to the challenges of globalisation: facilitating the integration of developing countries into the world economy in the twenty-first century" according with GA resolution 54/213.

166. We recognise the right of all States to determine freely their own political, economic and social system. We condemn the continued application by certain countries of extra-territorial measures and legislation, and their imposition of unilateral coercive economic measures against certain developing countries, and reaffirm that no state may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another state, including thorough non-extension of MFN status. We call on all states not to recognise the unilateral, extra-territorial laws enacted by certain countries which impose sanctions on companies and individuals belonging to other countries, since these measures and legislation threaten the sovereignty of states, adversely affect their social and economic development, marginalize developing countries from the process of globalisation, and are contrary to international law, the principles and purposes of UN Charter, the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among states, and agreed principles of the multilateral trading system.

167. We underline the need for strong political commitment by the international community for the successful implementation of the Agenda for Development. There is also a need to mobilise sufficient resources for its implementation so that it can contribute effectively to promote sustained economic growth in the developing countries and to remove existing

imbalances in the world economy. We urge the UNGA to undertake through appropriate mechanisms the follow-up and assessment of the implementation of the Agenda for Development.

168. We are concerned over the lack of implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, due mainly to the failure of the developed countries to fulfil their commitments for new and additional resources, the transfer of knowledge and technology to developing countries as well as enhanced access to the markets of the developed countries. We call upon countries implement their commitments undertaken and to make tangible progress towards the achievement of the targets, goals and objectives set by the UN conferences and summits.

169. The contribution of transnational corporations –TNC- to the sustained economic growth and sustainable development is determined by their global strategies characterised by the search of increased competitiveness and ever-higher profits. Such a situation is not necessarily consistent with job creation and the realisation of development objectives in many developing countries. Hence, we invite the relevant international institutions to address this dilemma with a view to reaching the right balance between both objectives. In this context, we request UNCTAD and ILO, with in their respective mandates, to study the merger trend among the TNCs and its impact on unemployment as well as its competitiveness impact on small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in developing countries. We emphasise the need for the integration of the development objectives of the host countries in the business strategies of TNCs.

International Trade

170. We welcome the adoption of the UNCTAD Plan of Action during its Tenth session held in Bangkok, Thailand on 12-19 February 2000. In this regard, we reiterate the important role that UNCTAD has to play in helping developing countries to integrate into the world economy through analysis, consensus building and technical co-operation in areas of special interest such as investment, enterprise development and technology, trade in goods and services, in particular commodities, and services infrastructure for development and trade efficiency.

171. We urge UNCTAD to work towards the effective implementation of the Plan of Action and call upon UNCTAD and other international organisations to co-operate and work closely to achieve all the objectives contained in the Plan of Action.

172. The failure of the Third Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Seattle, USA, on 30 November to 3 December 1999 is a clear signal that transparency in negotiations and the effective participation, particularly of developing countries, is an essential pre-requisite for any successful outcome. It is also a clear signal that much more work is needed to uphold and strengthen an open, rule-based, equitable, secure, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable multilateral trade system, as also to review and assess the implementation of existing agreements. In this regard, we believe that future negotiations on international trade should:

- Facilitate the integration of developing countries particularly small economies and Least Developed Countries into the trading system and provide assistance in capacity building to developing countries.

- Ensure urgent implementation of Uruguay Round Agreements, especially in areas of export interest to developing countries, including the agricultural, textile and clothing sectors, and decisions taken in favour of LDC's, as provided for in the Marrakesh Ministerial Declaration.

- Ensure preservation, for a transitional period of existing preferential trade arrangements with developed countries from which a significant number of developing and least developed countries benefit.

- Ensure that the preferences granted by developed countries under their GSP schemes will be based on the principles of non-discrimination and non-reciprocity and be continually expanded to cover products that correspond to the actual and potential export supply capabilities of developing countries.

- Ensure flexibility for developing countries to implement measures to enhance export and productive capacity.

- Ensure that ongoing negotiations on trade and services provided the most sustainable and effective conditions for these service sectors where developing countries have comparative advantages. In this respect the key issue of movement of natural persons should be addressed adequately.

173. We emphasise that the imbalance and asymmetries that have been apparent in the course of implementation of the WTO Agreements be urgently addressed. These include the lack of full and faithful implementation of existing obligations by developed countries in the area of textiles and agriculture, lack of market access for products of special interest to developing countries, non-realisation of the provisions for special and differential treatment, and the curtailment of developing countries' ability to pursue policy instruments that promote development. Further negotiations must ensure that these implementation issues are addressed and that the negotiations result in equitable benefits for all countries. There should also be an extension in the implementation periods of certain Agreements where the developing countries face particular problems, especially the TRIPS and the TRIMS Agreements.

174. We are seriously concerned over the disturbing tendencies of developed countries to link further liberalisation in already agreed areas with concessions from developing countries to liberalise areas of interest to them. We are also concerned that trading opportunities for developing countries were neutralised by the use of protectionist measures by the developed countries, such as misuse of antidumping and other provisions including those taken unilaterally and in the guise of technical standards, environmental, social and environmental or human rights related concerns. We unequivocally reaffirm that non-trade issues, such as social and environmental issues, should not be introduced in the agenda of the WTO.

175. We reiterate that low wages and environmental standards in developing countries are not responsible for the loss of jobs in developed countries, which should address their unemployment through the implementation of appropriate macro-economic ar[illegible] structural policies.

176. We reaffirm that the ILO is the only international body competent to set and deal with labour standards. We also reiterate that there is no linkage between trade and labour standards and reject all attempts to establish such a linkage as well as the use of labour standards as a

pretext for unilateral action in the field of trade. While we remain committed to promoting all relevant labour standards, we firmly reject its use for political or protectionist purposes.

177. Recognising that trade, investment and technology continue to be the key elements for economic development, we also call for further liberalisation and increased access for the products and services where developing countries have a comparative advantage including movement of natural persons, and access to transfer of technology on preferential and concessional terms. In this regard, we welcome the adoption of GA resolution 54/198 on Trade and Development, which emphasises all these important issues. We call for the urgent operationalisation and full implementation of the provisions of special and differential treatment in favour of developing countries and their further strengthening. We invite UNCTAD to continue its substantive work in this area and elaborate on issues of importance to developing countries.

178. We welcome the conclusions of negotiations in February 2000 of a New Partnership Agreement between ACP and EU and we have noted that both parties have submitted a request for a WTO waiver for a period of 8 years to enable the EU to continue to provide trade preferences to the ACP. We reaffirm our support to the WTO waiver in order to allow the continuation of preferential trade arrangements during the 8 years preparatory period.

179. In the spirit of fostering North-South relations we underline the necessity for developed countries to eliminate laws and regulations with adverse extra-territorial effects and other forms of unilateral economic coercive measures, inconsistent with the principles of international laws, UN Charter and the principles of the multilateral trading systems.

Financial, Investment and Monetary Issues

180. We welcome the adoption of UNGA resolution 54/196 that decided to convene in 2001 a high level intergovernmental event on financing for development. The intergovernmental event should address the international and systemic issues regarding financing for development in a holistic manner. We believe that this event will offer a good opportunity for developing countries to discuss with the different financial institutions and developed countries what our development needs really are and how do we want them to help us solve them. We recognise the need to hold the Conference at the highest level in order to ensure greater political commitment to financing of development. We also recognise the importance of an early decision on the venue and timing of the meeting in ensuring high-level participation and in this regard underline the need for further efforts to facilitate the decision. We appreciate the decision of the World Bank to actively participate in the preparatory process and encourage the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organisation to do the same. We welcome the decision of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector to actively participate in the preparatory process.

181. In the wake of recent financial and economic crises adversely affecting a number of developing countries, we again underline the need for specific regulatory framework for the financial and exchange markets against international speculative activities. Whilst reiterating the call for an increase in FDI into developing countries, it is essential to ensure the transparency of the capital flows of private sectors with a view to strengthening the early warning system and improving crisis management to mitigate the possible adverse impact of such financial crises in the future. The international financial system should create and enhance mechanisms, including surveillance mechanisms, technical assistance and adequate information facilities, so as to prevent such crises and neutralise their adverse impact and recommend ways to discourage speculative capital flows. We call upon the developed countries to increase their

financial contribution to the international financial institutions and to approve the increase in SDRs in the IMF, in order to improve the international liquidity and to enhance their ability to respond to crisis. The increasing level of private and non-transparent international financial flows calls for the reform of the international financial architecture, which will lead to a truly democratic and fair international financial system that will ensure the effective and full participation of the developing countries in the management of the international economy.

182. We reiterate the need for a stable, adequately financed international financial system that allows our economies to respond adequately to the challenges of development. In this regard, it is imperative to improve the capabilities of early warning, prevention and response of the international financial system to deal with financial crisis in a timely manner. The experience from the Asian financial crisis has also shown that excessive volatility in short-term capital flows and speculation in currency are among factors contributing to the instability of international finance. Thus, there is a need to consider the establishment of appropriate regulatory frameworks for short-term capital flows in order to prevent abuse of financial instruments and institutions such as hedge funds and high leverage institutions. There is also a need to establish coherent policies at national and international level to minimise the negative impacts of excessive volatility of short-term capital flows.

183. We urge developed countries to undertake necessary structural adjustments in their economies and refrain from protectionist tendencies against competitive imports from developing countries especially in the textile, clothing and agricultural sectors and against FDI outflows to them, in the interest of new growth opportunities. In addition, we call for the increased technical assistance from developed countries to developing countries, especially for those countries that have adversely been affected by the financial and economic crisis.

184. We call upon the Bretton Woods Institutions not to link their credit facilities with non-economic issues particularly security matters. We emphasise that these institutions should resist efforts by certain countries to use them to promote their narrow interests. These institutions should extend their maximum help to developing countries facing serious liquidity problems.

External Debt

185. We welcome the G-8 Cologne Debt Initiative on HIPC as a movement in the right direction. While recognising the advancements made on measures towards the relief of external debt of developing countries, we underscore the need to strengthen these measures. We urge the IMF to explore new sources or mechanisms for funding debt relief measures. Developed countries must provide the necessary financial contributions for debt relief, including the necessary resources to finance the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility. We also urge creditor countries to facilitate the implementation of the HIPC for debt reduction, by broadening the number of eligible countries and making the established conditions more flexible. In this context, there is also a need to take decisive steps aimed at substantially reducing official bilateral debts through their cancellation or writing off through provision of additional resources by the developed countries, without impacting on the credit-worthiness of the lending institutions. We call for the immediate elimination of all political measures prohibiting access of some developing countries to the resources of the international financial institutions by certain developed countries.

186. We welcome the initiative by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) taken at its IV Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State or Government (held in Sirte, Libya)

in the Sirte Declaration of September 9, 1999, through its Contact Group on Africa's External Debt, to fully address the issue of Africa's external indebtedness, with a view to securing its total cancellation as a matter of urgency. In this regard, we urge the Group of 8 Industrialised Countries, at their next summit in Okinawa, Japan, to ensure a lasting solution to Africa's indebtedness by responding positively to this initiative.

187. We also emphasise the need for a durable solution of the indebtedness of developing countries including middle-income countries, which is seriously crippling their sustained economic growth and sustainable development. While a number of measures and policies in the past including rescheduling have been helpful in alleviating the immediate situation, they have not achieved a durable solution. We particularly recognise the economic and social costs being incurred by the middle-income developing countries because of their external debt servicing obligations. Thus, in any such discussion on debt of developing countries including middle-income countries, the "once and for all" debt reduction policy arrangements should be seriously considered so as to speed up the release of financial resources for development particularly for the countries, which are honouring their debt repayment commitments in the face of acute economic difficulties. The solutions would also require new initiatives to facilitate their development. We urge the intensification of measures on the write-off of debt to promote development investments in accordance with the priorities and needs of developing countries. We also recognise the tremendous difficulties and problems faced by low income countries which have serviced their debt obligations at high costs to themselves and urge the international community to take the situation of low income countries into account in any comprehensive package of measures to resolve the external debt problems of developing countries.

Environment and Development

188. We reiterate our full support to UNEP and call for its strengthening as a unique international organisation entrusted with the mandate to make analysis of the environmental problems in order to fulfil the goal of renewing international commitments for the implementation of Agenda 21 and other agreements at the Earth Summit and subsequent meetings and promote technical co-operation.

189. We stress the need for UNEP and UNCHS to increase their co-operation and co-ordination among their activities, within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic and organisational identities, as well as their separate Executive Directors. We also stress that capacity-building and technical assistance must remain important components of the work programmes of both UNEP and UNCHS.

190. We recognise the ongoing efforts of developing countries for the realisation of the goals of sustainable development. At the same time, we continue to be deeply concerned about the lack of fulfilment of the international commitments undertaken by the developed countries at the Rio Earth Summit. We call for urgent fulfilment of commitments for the provision of financial resources, technical assistance and transfer of environmentally sound technology, including time bound commitments, as appropriate, to developing countries. In this context, we are disappointed at the non-fulfilment of commitments, as agreed at the Special Session of the General Assembly in 1997.

191. We call on the UN General Assembly for the early establishment of an open-ended, intergovernmental preparatory process for Rio+10 that ensures the effective participation of all developing countries, particularly Members of NAM, and in this context acknowledge South

African offer to host the Conference.

192. We emphasise the central role that the Commission on Sustainable Development plays in reviewing the implementation of Agenda 21 and in promoting sustainable development. In this regard, we call on to all NAM members for an active participation in the high-level policy debate of the CSD meetings, particularly, during the next session that will discuss issues of primarily importance for developing countries such as agriculture and land management, economic growth, trade and investment. We also look forward to the initial discussions for the review of Rio + 10 which will take place during the CSD-8.

193. In this context, we emphasise that the review process should be action oriented and should reactivate the global community's support for sustainable development and sustained economic growth. There should be a balance in addressing the sectoral and cross-sectoral issues of Agenda 21. The review process should provide appropriate solutions to the obstacles and problems being faced by developing countries in the implementation of Agenda 21.

194. We reiterate our concern at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, which have resulted in massive losses of live and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies world-wide, in particular in developing countries. In this regard, we express our full support for UNGA resolution 54/219 and call upon States and relevant intergovernmental bodies in order to translate the Yokohama Strategy for a safer world into concrete disaster reduction programmes and activities.

195. We welcome the adoption of UNGA resolution 54/220, on the international co-operation to reduce the impact of El Niño Phenomenon, and call upon the international community to contribute to its full implementation.

196. We reaffirm that economic and social development constitutes a priority and a fundamental right of countries. Sustainable development, therefore, must be considered within the wider context of sustained economic growth. States have the sovereign right to exploit resources in accordance with their own environmental and development policies.

197. We emphasise further the principle of the permanent sovereign of people's under foreign occupation over their natural resources.

198. We stress that the new and additional financial resources to developing countries have not been provided, the transfer of environmentally sound technologies of favourable, concessional and preferential terms has not been realised, and that the developed countries have not assumed and performed practical commitment to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

199. We once again call for the democratisation of the GEF, for transparency in its decision-making processes and for co-ordination between the implementing agencies of the GEF to be strengthened. We commit ourselves to continue reinforcing the developing countries' joint participation in the GEF to safeguard their common interests, both in the orientation of its policies as well as in the financial allocation of resources.

200. We welcome the adoption of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety by the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. We invite all Governments to considering taking the necessary steps to make possible the entry into force of this important international instrument as soon as possible, and help developing countries through capacity-building and

other co-operation mechanisms in the relevant areas of the Protocol.

201. We underline that, in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity, technology transfer and the efforts aimed at establishing an international system for the protection of intellectual property rights, including those related to goods and processes, should guarantee an equitable distribution of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. We will work to ensure that proprietary patents are developed only after obtaining the prior informed consent of the developing countries concerned, after reaching agreement on benefit sharing, to ensure a flow back on benefits from patentees to original developers. We also underscore that the rules and habits of local communities must be respected and incorporated into the intellectual property rights' norms.

202. We emphasise the importance of biodiversity as strategic wealth of the developing countries, on account of both at present and potential value and agree that its adequate management and conservation are essential for sustainable development, especially in the most important areas of national economies such as forests' utilisation, agriculture, fishing, wildlife management, health, industry and tourism.

203. We recall the legally binding commitments for the parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce their emission of Greenhouse Gases as contained in Annex B of the Kyoto Protocol. We call on the developed countries to undertake necessary and immediate steps to implement these commitments particularly through domestic action. Emission trading for implementation of such commitments can only commence after issues relating to the principles and modalities of such trading, including initial allocations of emission entitlement on an equitable basis to all countries, has been agreed upon by the Parties to the Convention.

204. We encourage the VI COP of the UNFCCC to adopt the rules and modalities for the implementation of the clean development mechanism. We categorically reject all attempts by some developed countries to link their ratification of the Kyoto Protocol with the question of participation by developing countries in the reduction of GHG emissions, taking into account that the creation of a clean development mechanism implies the possibility for industrialised countries to reduce significantly the cost of emissions reductions within their own boundaries. We also call for immediate measures to provide the developing countries with necessary financial resources and clean technology to enable them to meet their commitments under the Framework Convention on Climate Change, including inter alia, inventorisation of national emissions and dissemination of knowledge of climate change.

205. We urge developed countries to implement effective measures, to cope with their commitments in terms of the reduction of emission of greenhouse gases in their own territories and highlight the need to avoid so called flexibility mechanisms enabling those countries to elude the fulfilment of their commitments.

206. We acknowledge that the depletion of the ozone layer poses a serious threat to the whole world. We urge Parties to the Montreal Protocol to comply with its requirements and to phase out the production and consumption of regulated ozone depleting substances (ODS' s) in accordance with the phase out schedules agreed to by countries in terms of the Protocol. We also urge Parties to the Protocol to provide technical and financial assistance to affected producers in developing countries in compliance with the requirements of the Protocol.

Food security

207. We reaffirm that the right to food is a fundamental human right and its promotion constitutes a moral imperative for the international community. We emphatically reject the use of food as an instrument of economic or political pressure.

208. We express our concern over the large number of people, in particular children who suffer from hunger and malnutrition. We emphasise the need to take urgent action to meet the commitments for achieving food security for present and future generations, taking full account of the priorities and objectives set out in the World Food Summit of 1996.

209. We note that in spite of the advance made by the Uruguay Round, the Accords on Agriculture will lead only to partial trade liberalisation, and serious distortions will persist in the agricultural commodity markets even after their full implementation. We express our deep concern about the negative effects of this Accord on the developing countries, particularly the LDC' s and the net food importing countries. We strongly believe that these concerns should be given due priority in the course of the ongoing agriculture negotiations within the WTO. Accordingly, we consider necessary to undertake studies on the impact of the new multilateral trading system on food supply and its possible consequences on food security, particularly in developing countries. We further call for incorporating the agriculture sector within normal WTO rules, addressing the particular problems of predominantly agrarian economies, small islands developing economies and net food importing developing countries.

Science and Technology

210. We underline that progress of developing countries is dependent both on access to technology and on their endogenous capacity to develop it. We express grave concern over measures aimed at blocking or impeding, for political or other ends, particularly through coercive economic measures, the transfer of technology to developing countries. The controls imposed by highly industrialised countries on the export of dual use technology and other types of sensitive technology should not be used to prevent the access of developing countries to technology for peaceful, developmental purposes. We stress that endogenous capacity building in Science and Technology in developing countries should remain a priority issue in the UN Agenda.

211. We emphasise the need for formulating proposals to ensure that the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreements promote the development of developing countries. In this context, we underline the need for exploring the possibility for the formulation of a Code of Conduct, which is applicable to all countries for the access to and transfer of technologies on concessional and preferential terms from developed countries to developing countries.

212. We also underscore the urgent necessity for the international community to address the terms of access on which technology is made available to developing countries. We emphasise the need for urgent operationalisation of commitments to transfer technology to developing countries on concessional and affordable terms. We also call for transfer of environmentally sound technologies on affordable terms where such technologies and production methods have been mandated under national laws and international regulations.

213. We welcome the continued implementation of the expanded Program of Co-operation by the Centre for Science and Technology of Non-Aligned Movement Countries and call upon all

Non-Aligned and other developing countries to subscribe to the Statute of the Centre and to strengthen the Centre financially.

214. We urge member states to pay particular attention to the implementation of decisions taken at the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held in Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999. In this regard, we welcome UNGA Resolution 54/68 that takes note of the outcomes of this Conference and their implementation. Of special importance here are the voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the purpose of implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE III. Particular attention should also be paid to the equitable and preferential access by developing countries to the new technologies and to the strengthening of their capabilities to use the applications of space research for economic, social and cultural development.

Information and Communication

215. We underline that Non-Aligned Countries should intensify the development of communication technology as a means of redressing the continued imbalances and inequalities between developed and developing countries in the field of information and communication.

216. We urge Member Countries to enhance the functioning of the Non-Aligned News Agency Pool (NANAP) and the Broadcasting Organisation of Non-Aligned Countries (BONAC) and accelerating the process of setting up the New International Information Centres of the Non-Aligned Movement.

217. We express our concern over the increasing use of defamation and distortion of information by some mass media of developed countries, such as Radio Free Asia and Radio Marti, to destabilise the governments of Non-Aligned and other developing countries and called for an immediate end to such acts.

218. We express our concern over the undisguised attempts of some countries to eliminate the concept of a new equitable world information and communication order and stressed that the establishment of a new world information and communication order aimed at ensuring impartiality and balance in the information flow.

219. We call for the convening of the Sixth Conference of Ministers of Information and Communication of the Non-Aligned Movement (COMINAC-VI) at the earliest possible, in accordance with decision of the COMINAC-V, held in Abuja in September 1996.

220. We call on Member States to participate actively in the VII Film Festival of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries to be held in Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, 13 – 21 September 2000, following the decision of the XII Summit of the Non-Aligned Countries to promote co-operation among Member States in the field of culture.

221. We express our concern the widening gap in information and technology between the developed and developing countries, particularly LDCs. While some developing countries have made important advances in this area, most developing countries are still a long way from being part of this unfolding technological revolution, particularly in pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, information and communication technologies. We reaffirm the need for the developed countries to show political commitment by promoting an enabling environment to narrow and close the digital, technological and information divide between the developed and

developing countries, by strengthening, inter alia, the intellectual capital and resource base of developing countries, and providing access to transfer of technology and know-how.

South-South Co-operation

222. We are committed to further strengthening South-South Co-operation. In this context, we emphasise the importance of appropriate strategies and mechanisms, for promoting, accelerated economic growth and development and self-reliance, giving a greater dynamism to the world economy, and promoting the restructuring of the international economic relations. Developing countries should accelerate the establishment of new South-South relations by broadening and intensifying South-South Co-operation. Drawing on the successes and experiences made in the South-South Co-operation so far, we should orchestrate the strategies for South-South Co-operation suited to a new situation and continue to initiate new projects, including those in social and economic fields in order to ensure effective participation in the international economy.

223. We emphasise the urgent need to continue examining the modalities as well as the means of implementation of the various proposals contained in the final document of the XII NAM Summit, especially those concerning the establishment of a monetary fund, commodity fund and a fund for social and economic development.

224. We reiterate that South-South Co-operation is an essential mechanism for promoting the sustainable economic self-support and in bolstering new South-South relations by broadening and intensifying economic co-operation among developing countries.

225. We stress the need to broaden and deepen South-South Co-operation through enhanced regional and sub-regional co-operation, pooling of resources, strengthening our effectiveness in multilateral processes and organisations. We also stress the need to broaden and deepen South-South Co-operation efforts in respect of international trade, economic and development issues, as well as through the sharing of relevant expertise and experiences to increase the productivity and competitiveness of our economies.

226. We welcome the convening of the South Summit that will take place in Havana, Cuba from 10 to 14 April of this year. This will be the perfect fora for strengthening south-south relations and for establishing a working plan of action that continues to broaden the co-operation among our countries and that provide us with new impetus for the North-South dialogue. We call on all countries and organisations of the South to give their full support to the South Summit and to ensure its successful outcome.

227. We stress the need to intensify the process of strengthening the various inter-regional dialogues and the exchange of experiences among regional and sub-regional economic groupings for the purposes of expanding South-South Co-operation through integrating the modalities of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries.

228. We take note of the important and positive co-ordination of work of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77 through the Joint Co-ordinating Committee (JCC) in the promotion and defence of the common interests of the developing countries and agree that they should jointly sponsor draft resolutions as appropriate based on past practice, in future sessions of the General Assembly.

229. We call upon the NAM Members and other developing countries and developed countries as well as international organisations to extend support to the NAM Centre for South-South Technical Co-operation in Jakarta by contributing to the future programmes and activities. Furthermore, we appeal to all NAM Member States to maximise the utilisation of the Centre as one of the vital and effective means for promoting and accelerating technical co-operation for the enhancement of the people-centred development and capitalisation of local resources through interaction among development sectors in partnership in development.

Critical Economic Situation in Africa

230. The socio-economic situation in Africa remains precarious despite many efforts made by African countries, individually and collectively, to lay a solid foundation for Africa's development. In the context of globalisation and liberalisation, we are concerned that the decline in ODA flows to Africa will increase the marginalization of the continent in the global economy. We are also deeply concerned that FDI flows to Africa account for a mere 2% of the total FDI flows to developing countries. In this respect, we continue to call for the reversal of this negative trend. Furthermore, the FDI can only complement concessional finance and not replace it.

231. We lend our unequivocal support to the efforts of African countries to realise the objectives of Africa's Renaissance which are underpinned by collective self-reliance, agrarian reform, industrialisation, human resources development, social development, diversification of African economies and increase in both employment and income levels. We further welcome the growing trend in Africa towards regional and sub-regional economic and political co-operation and integration.

232. In this regard, we welcome the convening in Cairo on 3 and 4 April 2000 of the first Africa-Europe Summit under the aegis of the OAU and the EU.

Least Developed Countries

233. We are deeply concerned over the continuing declining rate of economic growth of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) as a group, with no sign of change in this trend, in spite of the broad structural and economic reform measures undertaken by them. The problems of the shrinking aid levels, the continuing decline in ODA, and Foreign Direct Investment, the heavy debt burden, lack of market access, supply side constraints and a decline in commodity prices hinder the growth of LDCs. We note that whilst the debt burden for the LDC' s continues to increase considerably, the flow of Foreign Direct Investment remains insignificant.

234. In view of the negative impact on the economic growth of the LDC' s resulting from the fall in ODA, we call upon all donor countries to live up to their commitments to achieve the internationally agreed ODA target of 0.15% of their GNP to the LDC' s and to endeavour to reach the target of 0.20% of their GNP by the year 2000. We further ask the developed countries to implement effective measures to provide easy access to their market for the products of LDC' s and also write-off their debt in order to enable them to strengthen their ability to develop. Given the overwhelming dependence of the LDC' s on external assistance for their capacity building, establishment of basic institutional infrastructure and strengthening of potential to attract foreign direct investment, the uninterrupted and promised level of flow of ODA is essential to economic growth.

Land-Locked Developing Countries

235. Noting the additional costs incurred by land-locked developing countries in developing their import and export markets, we call on the international community to give special attention and support to the special development problems and needs of these countries, particularly through technical co-operation with and financial assistance by developed countries and multilateral financial institutions to enable these countries to effectively participate in a rapidly globalising world economy.

236. We note that transit developing countries face serious economic problems and that their efforts at developing a viable transit infrastructure also need financial and technical from the international community. We note that in some cases regional integration and co-operation efforts have also provided additional solutions to the specific problems confronting land-locked countries.

Small Island Developing States

237. We welcome the outcome of the twenty-second Special Session of the General Assembly held on 27 and 28 September 1999 to review and appraise the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

238. While reaffirming our full support for the system-wide Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS, we recognise the efforts made by SIDS to implement the Programme of Action. In this regard, we note with concern that the support of the international community has been affected by financial and other resource constraints and by global economic and environmental factors.

239. We reaffirm the need for the provision of adequate, predictable, new and additional financial resources, transfer of environmentally sound technologies on concessional and preferential terms, and the promotion of non-discriminatory trading arrangements and we urge all countries, in particular, developed countries to fulfil the commitments contained in the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS.

CHAPTER IV: SOCIAL ISSUES

Social Development

240. We express our commitment to the accelerated implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Program of Action and in this regard, look forward to the review of the implementation of the outcome of the Social Summit in June 2000. The international community must maintain the momentum generated by the Social Summit geared at the eradication of poverty, the generation of full employment, and promotion and achievement of social integration and the attainment of broad social development, while taking action to mitigate those aspects of globalisation, which impact negatively in our economies.

Poverty Eradication

241. We stress that the eradication of poverty through sustained and accelerated economic growth continues to remain the overriding priority for developing countries. In this context, we stress the need for a supportive international economic and financial environment to address long-term problems of poverty and underdevelopment and reaffirm the need to facilitate the efforts for the eradication of poverty and the improvement of the well being of our people. We also stress the need for a holistic approach and gender mainstreaming in this regard. We further encourage exchange of experiences among Non-Aligned Movement Members and other developing countries on poverty eradication, strategies and programmes with a view to enhancing capacity in dealing with poverty issues. We welcome the initiative launched by H.E. Mr. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia, for the creation of a World Solidarity Fund. In this regard, we take note of the endorsement of this initiative by the 71st Session of the OAU Ministerial Council, held in Addis Ababa, in March 2000 and encourage efforts by Member States towards its establishment.

242. We reaffirm the importance of health as indispensable resource for sustainable development, and in this regard, we are deeply concerned that HIV/Aids, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases continue to threaten the achievement of economic and developmental goals of developing countries. We welcome in this regard, efforts by the UN Secretary-General to put the issue of HIV/Aids on the international agenda. We urge the international community including the World Health Organisation, to make greater efforts in the fight against HIV/Aids and in facilitating access to safe and affordable essential medicines aimed at eradicating this scourge and other communicable diseases.

Population and Development

243. We welcome the successful outcome of the Special Session of the UN General Assembly held in July 1999 on the Review of the Implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and urge the international community to intensify its efforts to achieve the goals of the programme through, inter alia, increasing financial resource mobilisation.

Illiteracy

244. We express our concern for the high-level of illiteracy in many NAM Countries. Though recognising that this issue should be primarily dealt with within the framework of domestic policies, effort should be made to reduce the level of illiteracy in NAM Countries through the

promotion of South-South Co-operation, education being one of the conditions for genuine development, greater consideration should be given to this issue in international fora.

International Migration and Development

245. We reiterate our call on member countries of the Movement and the international community to work towards the effective respect for the human dignity and well being of migrants, international norms and full compliance with relevant international instruments. We express our concern over the emergence of stringent immigration policies in various developed countries, which severely restrict the free movement of people and breed xenophobia. We also express deep concern over new immigration laws and regulations recently by some developed countries, which could lead to massive deportations of immigrants from Non-Aligned Countries and other developing countries in violation of their fundamental human rights. We call upon those developed countries to take fully into account the social and economic effects those deportations would have on the affected developing countries, particularly those facing high debt burdens and high unemployment situations. We encourage all countries to consider becoming parties to the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers.

Human Settlements

246. We welcome the preparatory process for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Habitat Agenda, Istanbul + 5, to be held in June 2001. We invite all members to participate actively in the Preparatory Committee meetings in order to obtain the best results during the Special Session in considering our concerns in the implementation of various areas of the Habitat Agenda.

Human Rights

247. We reaffirm that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be respected. It is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all peoples, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the Declaration of the Right to Development and other international human rights instruments. Furthermore, we agree to work towards the transformation and the continuing adaptation of human rights machinery to current and future needs in the promotion and protection of human rights.

248. We stress that the human rights issues must be addressed within the global context through a constructive, dialogue-based approach, with objectivity, respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity, impartiality, non-selectivity and transparency as the guiding principles, taking into account the political, historical, social, religious and cultural characteristics of each country. Exploitation of human rights for political purposes, including selective targeting of individual countries for extraneous considerations, which is contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter, should be excluded. We emphasise that co-ordination of human rights activities must be carried out by United Nations organs, bodies and specialised agencies, whose activities deal with human rights, so as to co-operate in order to strengthen, rationalise and streamline those activities, taking into account the need to avoid duplication.

249. We reiterate our view that every State should provide an effective framework for the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and other relevant international instruments on human rights, as well as a framework of remedies to redress human rights grievances or violations. In this context, we reaffirm the important and constructive role to be played by independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights and stress that every effort should be made for the impartiality and objectivity of national institutions and call upon the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide greater assistance upon request by interested governments in the establishment and operations of the national institutions. Each national institution has the right to choose its framework in accordance with national legislation.

250. We urge States to ensure that their constitutional and legal systems, taking into account the respective country conditions, provide effective guarantees for fundamental human rights such as freedom of speech, association, thought, conscience, religion and belief to all without discrimination. We condemn unequivocally all violent acts and activities, which infringe upon human rights and fundamental freedoms, democracy, tolerance and respect for diversity.

251. We reaffirm that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. Adoption, for any cause or consideration, of coercive and unilateral measures, rules and policies against developing countries constitute flagrant violations of the basic rights of their populations. We also reaffirm that poverty and social and economic exclusion constitute a violation of human dignity and human rights. It is essential for States to promote efforts to combat abject poverty and as well as, foster participation by the poorest members of society in decision-making process. In this context, we also urge developed countries to assist the developing countries particularly the LDCs in fulfilling the basic needs of the society determined for the purpose of right to development.

252. We express our deep concern over the lack of progress in the negotiations in the Third Committee Working Group of the UNGA on the adaptation of the UN human rights machinery mandated by paragraph 17 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action which we attribute to a lack of political will on the part of developed countries. We are also concerned over the tendency of imposing a particular agenda and monitoring approaches at the expense of the role of development and international co-operation in the overall promotion and protection of human rights.

253. We unequivocally condemn international terrorism as a criminal act and note that terrorism endangers the very territorial integrity and security of States, due to acts of terrorism which take place within States, especially those which violate human rights in particular the right of life of all citizens and that destroy the physical and economic infrastructure, and attempt to de-stabilise legitimately constituted governments. We express our resolve to take speedy and effective measures to eliminate international terrorism and urged all states to fulfil their obligations under international law, including prosecuting or, where appropriate, extraditing the perpetrators of such acts and preventing the organisation and instigation of terrorism against other States from within outside their territories. We reaffirm our support for General Assembly resolution 46/51 of 27 January 1992 which unequivocally condemned as criminal and unjustifiable all acts, methods and practices of terrorism wherever and by whomever committed and called upon all States to fulfil their obligations under international laws to refrain from organising, instigating, assisting or participating in terrorist acts in other State, or acquiescing in or encouraging activities within their territory towards the commissioning of such acts .

254. We further call on all States to endorse in principle the convening of an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations, to define terrorism, to differentiate it from the struggle for national liberation and to reach comprehensive and effective measures for concerted action. We also denounce the brutalisation of peoples kept under foreign occupation as the gravest form of terrorism. We condemn the use of state power for the suppression and violence against innocent civilians struggling against foreign occupation to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination. We stress the sanctity of this right and urged that in this era of enlarged freedom and democracy, people under foreign occupation should be allowed to freely determine their destiny. In this context, we reaffirm the Movement's principled position that the struggle of people under colonial or alien domination and foreign occupation for self-determination do not constitute terrorism.

255. We recall General Assembly resolution 52/133 entitled "Human Rights and Terrorism" and renew our concern at the gross violation of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups, and reiterate our condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism. We also call for the need to promote and intensify international co-operation in order to implement effective measures against terrorism.

256. We remain determined to promote and protect all human rights, including the right to development, as enunciated in the Declaration on the Right to Development. While stressing the indivisible nature of all human rights, we emphasise on the importance of the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and as an integral part of the fundamental human rights. In this regard, we welcome the greater acceptance of the implementation and realisation of the right to development by the international community and call on all States to undertake necessary policy formulation and institute measures required for the implementation of the right to development as a fundamental human right. The United Nations Commission on Human Rights' Open-Ended Working Group on the Right to Development should give consideration, inter alia, to the question of the necessity for a Convention on the Right to Development. We emphasise the need that the Independent Expert on the Right to Development should be provided with the adequate and necessary resources in order to fulfil his mandate.

257. We fully support the regional initiatives and efforts to maintain over all development in the advancement of people and individuals, such as the comprehensive development strategy, which was adopted by the nineteenth session of the Supreme Council of the Gulf Co-operation Council, held in Abu Dhabi in 1998.

International Humanitarian Law

258. We express our concern over the continuous erosion in the respect for international humanitarian law and principles, both in terms of denial of safe and unimpeded access in accordance with international humanitarian law to people in need and through increasing violence against all those protected by international humanitarian law. We therefore urge all parties to conflicts to respect international humanitarian law and human rights instruments, stress the importance of the promotion and diffusion of these laws and instruments and call upon all parties to take measures to ensure the safety and the security of international and local humanitarian personnel.

259. We reiterate that priority should be given to promoting knowledge of, respect for and observance of the rules of international humanitarian law, in particular those of the four Geneva Conventions and their 1977 Protocols, and we encourage States to consider ratifying or

acceding the two 1977 Additional Protocols; in particular we recognise the obligation of the parties in armed conflicts not of international character to apply the provisions contained in he common Article 3. We also underline the importance of national implementation of international humanitarian law and urge all States to take such measures as may be necessary to implement their international obligations, including the enactment of legislation and/or regulations.

260. We condemn the increasing attacks on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and urge all Member Countries to ensure respect for the protection of the personnel of humanitarian organisations in conformity with the relevant international law. Humanitarian agencies and their personnel should respect the laws of the countries they work in and the principles of neutrality and non-interference, as well as cultural, religious and other values of the population in the countries where they operate.

261. We recognise the need for rules to protect and preserve cultural property, as such objects constitute the collective memory of humanity and are examples of its greatest achievements. We take note of the adoption of the Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in this regard, and invite those States which have not yet done so to considering ratifying the 1954 Convention and its two additional Protocols.

262. We take note of the adoption of the Plan of Action on humanitarian issues and the pledges made by the 27th International Red Cross and Red Crescent Conference (Geneva, 31 October - 6 November 1999) including better response to the needs of victims of armed conflict. As parties to the Geneva Conventions, we commit ourselves to fully adhere to our obligations under these Conventions.

Humanitarian Issues

263. We reaffirm the distinction between humanitarian action and UN peace-keeping and peace enforcement operations as well as operational activities for development and emphasise that humanitarian assistance is designed to address the consequences, and not the causes thereof. In order to pursue the independence, neutrality and the impartiality of humanitarian action, such action must be kept distinct from, and independent of political or military action, in accordance with respective mandates while ensuring the observance of international laws. We reject the so-called 'right' of humanitarian intervention, which has no legal basis in the UN Charter or in the general principles of international law. In this context, we request the Co-ordinating Bureau in New York to continue to remain seized of the consideration of the concept of humanitarian intervention and other related matters as contained in the 1999 Report of the UN Secretary-General on the Work of the Organisation.

264. We express concern over the lack of adequate resources for responding to and addressing humanitarian emergencies in a uniform manner across the globe without humanitarian favouritism and, more specifically, the process of transition from relief to development and regret the persistent trend of low and uneven funding for humanitarian assistance. We reiterate that failure to provide adequate resources and balanced contributions, both geographically and sectorally, undermines the Guiding Principles of Humanitarian Assistance, and weakens the ability of humanitarian actors to respond in a coherent and timely manner to emergencies. We therefore call upon donor countries to increase their contributions to humanitarian appeals commensurate with the needs of affected populations, without being influenced by levels of media interest or geographic location of the emergency requiring humanitarian assistance. At the same time, contributions for humanitarian assistance should not be at the expense of

development assistance. Furthermore, we call on the United Nations to fully utilise the capacities existing within developing countries, which are available closer to the site of a disaster and often at lower cost.

265. We reiterate our deep concern over the considerable rise in the number of refugees and note with concern the increasingly large numbers of refugees and internally displaced persons being hosted by developing countries. We also acknowledge the urgent need to further sensitise the international community, particularly the donor community and the international financial institutions, to the ever-increasing problems of refugee hosting developing countries and developing countries in situations of post-conflict reconstruction of those with protracted and heavy refugee caseloads. We stress the necessity of international burden sharing and responsibility in refugee situations. We reiterate the call for intensified financial and moral support to developing countries, upon request and while scrupulously observing the principles of neutrality, non-conditionality and non-interference.

266. We reaffirm that international humanitarian assistance to respond to humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters must be provided upon request, in accordance with the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality and should be determined solely on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disaster. In this respect, we stress the need to increase the funds for international co-operation for natural disasters, as well as for the needs to set out disaster prevention and management mechanisms, including early warning systems, taking into account particularly the work accomplished on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction and transition from relief to development, in view of the increasing number and scale of natural disasters world-wide, in particular in developing countries.

267. We express our deep concern over the unprecedented floods in southern Africa and Mozambique in particular, that have caused loss of lives, extensive destruction of infrastructures and deterioration of the socio-economic situation. The unfolding humanitarian disaster is a further cause of concern. We commend the efforts of southern Africa development community (SADC) countries to address the devastating effects of the floods and thank the international community for the support, solidarity and humanitarian assistance rendered to Mozambique. We urge the international community to participate in the International Donors Conference to be held in Rome on 3 and 4 May 2000, aimed at mobilising financial resources for the rehabilitation of socio-economic infrastructures in Mozambique. We also urge the developed countries to write-off the external debt of Mozambique in the light of its current critical socio-economic situation and support the post-conflict peace-building process in Mozambique.

Racism and Racial Discrimination

268. We reiterate our opposition to all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and express deep concern on the resurgence of contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in various parts of the world. All forms of racism and xenophobia constitute a serious violation of human rights, which should be rejected through all political and legal means. We condemn all forms of racism and discrimination spread through the new communications technology, including the internet. We welcome the decision to convene a "World Conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" in the year 2001 in South Africa. We call on all States to render the necessary support to the preparatory process geared at the holding of the conference.

Advancement of Women

269. We pledge our support to the Special Session of the General Assembly on "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", reaffirming our commitment to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. We also reiterate that there is a need for the adoption of effective measures to integrate a gender perspective, to removing the main obstacles to the achievement of equality and equity between men and women, development and peace, and particularly eradicating poverty. We recognise women important role in social and economic development and reiterate the need to take practical measures for their active participation in political, economic, social and cultural activities. We also reiterate that there is a need for a holistic approach through the entire life cycle of women including, the empowerment of women and economic independence of women and the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls. In particular, situation of girls and women living in rural areas should be given due priority.

270. We pledge ourselves to combating all forms of discrimination against women, and to supporting measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against and trafficking in girls and women. There is also a need to strengthen the promotion of an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective at national and multilateral levels, including in the design, follow-up and gender-based evaluation of all policies, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women in particular and the advancement of women in general. We also recognise the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in the process of implementation of the outcome of major United Nations conferences.

271. We reaffirm that today major changes in social development patterns, including providing possibilities for active participation of women, are considered among the top priorities for achieving sustainable development. In this regard, the role of the family unit that respect the human rights of all its members as an institution that provides the highest degree of material and moral well-being, is extremely important.

272. We reiterate abhorrence at the increasing victimisation of, and violence against, women and the girl child, especially in situations of armed conflict, and the systematic use of rape by the parties to conflicts as an instrument of war, ethnic cleansing and terrorism. We call on countries to take the necessary measures against all such perpetrators of violence in order to put an end to such practices forthwith and to ensure international law and domestic legislation, make provision for the protection of women and girls in armed conflict. In this regard, we reaffirm Chapter IV.E of the Beijing Platform for Action, on Women and Armed Conflict.

273. We recognise women's contribution to peace-building, peace-making and conflict resolution.

The Situation of Children

274. We welcome the decision to convene a Special Session of the General Assembly in the year 2001 to review the implementation of the Program of Action of the World Summit of Children, and express our commitment to participate fully in the preparatory process for the Special Session with a view to improving the lives of children in our countries. We are concerned that economic and social marginalization of developing countries, especially the poorest nations is leading to a deleterious impact on children.

275. We are also concerned over the intolerable persistence of adverse social and economic conditions faced by children on account of poverty, use of children in armed conflict, including child mercenaries, child labour, particularly the worst forms of child labour, the continued exploitation and trafficking of children for pornography, prostitution and drug trafficking, the increasing number of children affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as at the suffering of refugee and displaced children. Urgent steps, including through international co-operation, must be undertaken to address these problems.

276. We take note of the adoption by a working group mandated by the Commission of Human Rights of a draft Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflicts. We encourage all States to deal with the question of minimum age limit for recruitment and participation of children in armed conflict in accordance with articles 1 to 4 of the draft Protocol. We further express our conviction of the need to strengthen international co-operation for the implementation of the Protocol and the rehabilitation and social integration of children who are victims of armed conflict. We also welcome the entry into force of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, and in particular the protection the Charter offers to children affected by armed conflict.

277. We take note of the ongoing work on drafting an Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child pornography and child prostitution, to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. We call upon States, in cases of child sex tourism, to enhance international co-operation among all relevant authorities, in particular law enforcement authorities, including the sharing of relevant data, in order to eradicate this practice. We also stress the need to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children, including through preventive and enforcement measures, targeting customers or individuals who sexually exploit or abuse children.

Transnational Crime

278. We reaffirm our commitment to co-ordinate the efforts and strategies at national, regional and international levels against transnational crime and to develop an adequate database on transnational crime and the methods most effective in combating crime of this nature. We also reaffirm that international efforts against transnational crime should be carried out with the necessary respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States.

279. We note the ongoing process to draft an International Convention against Organised Transnational Crime, as well as its additional Protocols on trafficking in persons, in particular women and children, on combating illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, and on illegal trafficking in and transportation of migrants. We emphasise the need for the effective participation of all developing countries, particularly members of the Movement, in the negotiations on the draft Convention and its three protocols in the Ad-hoc Committee. We express our concern that, owing to the pace of negotiations and their simultaneity, many NAM and other developing countries have not been able to ensure such effective participation.

International Drug Control

280. We reiterate the call for enhanced international co-operation in favour of alternative development programs and for environmental rehabilitation in the areas of illicit crop cultivation. We also call upon the United Nations Drug Control Program and developed

countries to fully support developing countries in their fight against illicit drugs, through providing them with adequate financial and technical assistance.

281. We also remain committed to the pledge undertaken at the Eleventh Summit to strengthen international co-operation to eradicate the growing and dangerous links between terrorist groups, drug traffickers and their paramilitary gangs, and other armed criminal groups which have resorted to all types of violence, thus undermining the democratic institutions of States and violating basic human rights. Effective measures must be taken to halt the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, which is linked to the drug trade and which is generating unacceptable levels of crime and violence affecting the national security and the economies of many States.

282. We reaffirm the determination to achieve concrete results on all the action plans by the 20th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly, on the basis of the principles of shared responsibility for addressing the demand and supply-side of drug trafficking, in conformity with principles and purposes enshrined in the UN Charter and other International instruments, in particular respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

ANNEX: RESERVATIONS

BURKINA FASO

(Unofficial translation)

The delegation of Burkina Faso, who could greatly wish that the consensus be done around the examination of the question on Angola, puts forward reservations on the entire paragraph 129 of the Final Document ref. NAM/MC/1/Rev.2.

Indeed the delegation of Burkina Faso considers that he can't endorse a text that requires the Security Council to adopt a report of Experts Committee on Angola, even though the examination of this report by this same Security Council is always hanging.

CHILE

The Delegation of Chile has the honour to address the Secretariat of the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, and in connection with the Final Declaration would like to express its reservations with regard to all those paragraphs whose contents may be incompatible with the external policies and/or juridical order or international obligations assumed by the Republic of Chile.

Furthermore, it also wishes to state that inasmuch as the paragraphs in Chapter II, "Analysis of the International Situation" refer to actions which concern certain Member States or to bilateral conflicts, the contents of those paragraphs, judgements and qualifications would only have value linked to those countries and not necessarily to the other members of the Movement.

The Delegation of Chile believes that those paragraphs reflecting particular interests of delegations should be placed in a document annexed to the Final Declaration and not form part of the central body of the same.

The Delegation of Chile avails of this opportunity to reiterate to the Secretariat of the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries the assurances of its distinguished consideration.

GUATEMALA

The Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, and has the honor to refer to the communication of the Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement of April 13, regarding the Final Document of the XIII Ministerial Conference of NAM, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8-9 April. In this regard, the Permanent Mission of Guatemala wishes to submit its reservation regarding paragraphs 109 to 152, in those aspects which do not reflect the position that the delegation of Guatemala customarily assumes on the same issues in the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

INDIA

The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, in its capacity as the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement Ministerial Conference in Cartagena, and has the honour to refer to the Communiqué adopted by the NAM Ministerial Conference in Cartagena on 9th April, 2000.

As conveyed by the Indian delegation at the Ministerial Conference, it is India's view that the Movement must concentrate on the common external challenges that continue to mount, and which all developing countries, including members of the Movement, must face unitedly. The Movement should, therefore, focus on causes that bind its members together, and shun those that divide it. It should not waste its energies, or let its unity be undermined, by pursuing agendas that are either divisive or controversial within the Movement.

It is for these reasons that India opposes the proposal to have a study conducted on a conflict resolution mechanism for the Movement, and wishes to convey its formal reservation to paragraph 106 of the Communiqué adopted by the NAM Ministerial Conference in Cartagena on 9th April, 2000.

The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement declares its reservation on those parts of the Final Document of the Conference (NAM/MC/1/Rev.2) which might be construed as any form of recognition of Israel.

IRAQ

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Colombia to the United Nations, and with reference to the Final Document of the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, has the honor to convey that the Government of Iraq, in addition to its oral reservations on paragraphs 134 and 135 entitled ***"Iraq-Kuwait"***, would like also to submit its strong reservations in writing on these two paragraphs as follows:

1- Paragraph 134 concerning the ***"importance of Iraq to its completion of implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions"*** Our reservations are the following:

a) This paragraph contradicts with the fact that the responsibility of implementation of Security Council Resolutions falls on all member states of the United Nations, and in particular the Permanent Members of the Security Council. This paragraph also contradicts with the latest position of the Non-Aligned Movement expressed in its statement of December 17, 1998 (United Nations General Assembly Document A/53/762) in which ***"the movement deplores the ongoing military actions against Iraq by individual countries without any authorization from the Security Council in flagrant disregard of the Charter of the United Nations. The Movement emphasizes that the full implementation of all relevant***

Security Council resolutions by all parties constitutes the only means for establishing durable peace, security and stability in the region."

b) This paragraph ignores the fact that two permanent members of the Security Council, namely the United States and the United Kingdom are violating, daily and constantly, the Security Council resolutions on Iraq through imposing, by force, the no-fly zones on Iraq contrary to the provisions of these resolutions which call for the respect of Iraq's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The daily bombing of Iraqi civilian infrastructure by the United States and the United Kingdom is another example of acts of aggression. The logistical support provided by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey to the United States and the United Kingdom makes them key partners in the aggression against Iraq.

2- Paragraph 134 concerning the ***"need to resolve expeditiously the fate of all prisoners/detainees and missing persons of Kuwait and third country nationals"*** and recalling ***"the appointment of Mr. Yuly Vorontsov by the Secretary General as the high level coordinator to follow up the release of Kuwaitis and third country nationals and prisoner/detainees and the return of Kuwaiti property."*** Our reservations are the following:

a) The issue of Missing in Action is a humanitarian one, and there should be no selectivity or double standard in mentioning a nationality and ignoring others. Since there are more Iraqis Missing in Action than other nationalities, this paragraph should make reference to them as well.

b) Humanitarian issues should not be politicized, the reference to the appointment of Mr. Yuly Vorontsov is an attempt to politicize the issue.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Iraq to the United Nation avails itself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.

STATE OF KUWAIT

The Permanent Representative of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations and with reference to the final communiqué of the XIII Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement held recently in Cartagena, Colombia from 7-9 April 2000, wishes to register the Government of Kuwait's strong reservations on paragraphs 136 and 139 under the title "Iraq".

Kuwait would like to see the above-mentioned reservations reflected in the final official communiqué of the XIII Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement held recently in Cartagena, Colombia.

The Permanent Representative of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

PAKISTAN

The Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations and has the honour to record its reservation on paragraph 17 bis regarding the Plan of Action as contained in the Final

Document of the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held in Cartagena, 8-9 April 2000, circulated under symbol NAM/MC/1/Rev.2.

According to para 40 of the Durban Final Document, the Working Group entrusted with the task of defining and preparing a complete Plan of Action for the Movement, is to report to the Ministerial Meeting on Methodology through the NAM Coordinating Bureau. As such, the Plan of Action needs to be presented to the Ministerial Meeting on Methodology and not to the Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement.

The Permanent Mission of Pakistan would request that the reservation be appropriately reflected in the Final Document of the XIII Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Cartagena, 8-9 April 2000.

The Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

PERU

(Unofficial translation)

The Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, in its capacity as Chairman of the XIII Ministerial Meeting of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries, and regarding the documents adopted by this conference, has the honor to inform that the Government of Peru wishes to submit its reservations on all those paragraphs of the referred documents whose contents are incompatible with its external, economic, social or legal policies.

The Permanent Mission of Peru would like that this verbal note be attached to the publication of the Final Document of the mentioned meeting.

The Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of its highest and distinguished consideration.

RWANDA

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Rwanda wishes to dissociate itself from the language used in para 129 on Angola, in its fourth line where it is written and we quote: "and urge the Security Council to adopt the report, etc etc" unquote.

Adopt is not the right word and we have no problem with the rest of the text. The language urging the Security Council to adopt the report supposes that the UNSC has examined and debated the report. This is not the case. Members of the Security Council in this room will tell you that the first informal consultations on the report will start April 11-12th and the debate on April 18th, 2000.

Prior to these dates we cannot urge the Security Council to adopt the report but to examine it and take relevant action. I thank you.

SAUDI ARABIA

The Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations, and with reference to the Final Document of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries at the XIII Ministerial Conference held recently in Cartagena in 8 and 9 April 2000, has the honour to convey that the Government of Saudi Arabia, in addition to its oral reservations on paragraphs (136) and (139) entitled "Iraq," would like to make these reservations in writing to the said paragraphs and its amendments.

The Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

THAILAND

The Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations and, with reference to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations' Note No. NAM/521/00 dated 13 April 2000, concerning the XIII Ministerial Conference held in Cartagena during 8 - 9 April 2000, has the honour to convey the Government of Thailand's reservations on those paragraphs in the Final Document, which are inconsistent with its foreign policy.

The Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

TOGO

(Unofficial translation)

The delegation of the Republic of Togo would like to put on the record its reservation concerning the whole paragraph 129 of the **Final Document (Doc. NAM/MC/Rev.2)**

The delegation of the Republic Togo is not in a position to accept the adoption of the text of the above-mentioned paragraph which urges the United Nations Security council to adopt the report of the Expert Panel on the violations of sanctions in Angola and pass a resolution based on the recommendations contained therein at the very moment when the Council has not yet terminated its consideration of the report.

MOVEMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
CARTAGENA, APRIL 8-9, 2000

Declaration on the Millennium Summit

1. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Non-Aligned Movement, meeting in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia on 8 and 9 April 2000 at the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Movement, addressed various issues related to the Millennium Summit that will be held from 6 to 8 September 2000 in New York under the overall theme "The role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century."

2. The Ministers expressed their firm support for the Millennium Summit, as well as for the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly in the year 2000 convened as "The Millennium Assembly of the United Nations," and indicated that they will actively avail themselves of the opportunity presented by the Summit to articulate their vision on prospects and challenges for the new millennium, and on concrete actions required by the international community to effectively address them.

3. The Ministers stressed that the Millennium Summit and its preparatory process must provide for effective participation by all member states, especially the members of the Non-Aligned Movement, through a transparent intergovernmental process of deliberations and negotiations, to ensure full ownership of its outcome.

4. The Ministers endorsed the proposal of the Joint Coordinating Committee that within the overall theme of "The role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century," there should be two subtopics, namely, "Peace, security and disarmament" and "Development and poverty eradication."

5. The Ministers welcomed the decision of the General Assembly in Resolution 54/254 that, owing to the unique symbolic moment of the Millennium Summit, Namibia being the country of the President of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and Finland being the country of the President of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, jointly preside over the Summit.

6. The Ministers addressed the issue of the list of speakers of the plenary, and favoured the drawing of lots in an open and transparent manner as the most appropriate mechanism.

7. The Ministers welcomed the interactive round tables and emphasized that these be composed giving due consideration to the principle of equitable geographic representation, as well as providing for an appropriate balance between developed and developing nations. In addition, the Ministers expressed that the four round tables be chaired by a Head of State or Government of Eastern Europe, Latin American and the Caribbean, Asia, and Africa, respectively.

8. The Ministers recognized the need to continue discussing the role and the collective challenges before the Non-Aligned Movement in the twenty-first century, and noted that the Millennium Assembly provides an appropriate context for a deep reflection on these issues. The Ministers instructed the Permanent Representatives in New York to consider this issue in the Coordinating Bureau and to present recommendations to the Ministerial

Meeting in New York during the Session of the United Nations fifty-fifth General Assembly.

9. The Ministers instructed the Coordinating Bureau in New York to establish an ad hoc open-ended working group to carefully discuss the implications and suggestions of the report of the Secretary General entitled "We the peoples: the role of the United Nations in the twenty-first century" guided by the principles and decisions of the Non-Alignment Movement and the UN Charter.

MOVEMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
CARTAGENA, APRIL 8-9, 2000

Call from Cartagena to Sustain the Africa Momentum

We the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Non- Aligned Movement, gathered in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on the occasion of the XIII Ministerial Conference, held on 9-10 April 2000,

Desiring to lend the unequivocal support of the Non Aligned Movement to the efforts by African countries to address their numerous challenges, and to sustain the momentum generated by increasing world attention to the aspirations and objectives of the African renaissance,

1. We welcome all decisions adopted by the 35th ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State or Government of the Organisation of African Unity which took place in July 1999 in Algiers, underline the determination of the Organisation of African Unity to pursue their tireless efforts for the prevention and peaceful settlement of conflicts in Africa, and express in this regard, their appreciation for the contributions of H.E. Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Head of State of Algeria and Chairman of the OAU, as well as other African leaders.

2. Call on the United Nations and the international community to effectively contribute to the enhancement of African capacities in the prevention of conflicts and peacekeeping, in particular by strengthening the OUA Mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution.

3. Commend the decision of African leaders to declare the year 2000 as the Year of Peace, Security and Solidarity in Africa and encourage them to pursue their commitment to effectively eliminate armed conflicts in Africa by the end of the year.

4. Reaffirm the intrinsic link between peace and development, and in this context welcome the Open- Ended Working Group as established in GA Resolution 53/92, express our appreciation for the report of the United Nations Secretary General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, and call for the early implementation of the recommendations contained therein, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and fully respecting the national priorities of African countries themselves.

5. Express deep concern about the persistent critical economic situation of Africa, and note in particular that the heavy burden of the external debt and debt servicing, deteriorating prices for primary commodities, insufficient foreign direct investments and declining flows of official development assistance to the region, have adversely affected the ability of African countries to meet their development objectives.

6. Commend the efforts undertaken by Africa toward the economic and social development of African peoples and economic co-operation and integration among African states, and in this regard, welcome the Declaration of Sirte adopted on September 9, 1999 at the 4th Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU.

7. Welcome with great satisfaction the achievements of many African countries in terms of peaceful political transition, and urge the international community of donors to mobilise means and ways of assistance in support of this trend.

8. Welcome the various initiatives undertaken by the United Nations, bilateral donors and multilateral institutions in mobilising efforts for the development of Africa, and believe that more effective co-ordination and harmonisation in their implementation, better funding and stronger ownership by recipient countries, will enhance the attainment of sustainable development of Africa.

9. Call on the international community to promote strong and lasting economic growth in Africa to reduce the level of poverty by half by the year 2015, in response to the resolve by African countries and to the commitments undertaken during the Social Development Summit in Copenhagen.

10. Express our deep concern regarding the situation of refugees in Africa, reiterate our solidarity with the millions of refugees and internally displaced persons in the continent as well as the host countries, and urge on the international community and the United Nations to mobilise adequate and sufficient resources and to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of resources designated for refugees and internally displaced persons.

11. Urge international support for a millennium vaccine fund to guarantee future markets for malaria, tuberculosis and AIDS vaccines in Africa, in order to stem the tide of disease in the continent.

12. View with concern the magnitude of recent natural disasters afflicting several African countries and causing a high number of victims and severe social, economic and environmental damage and disruption, and call on the international community to assist with the prevention and mitigation of such disasters and to adequately finance the reconstruction needs of the countries affected.

13. Remain confident that African countries, inspired by their great ancestral values will overcome those challenges, and ensure for the African peoples peace, progress and emancipation, and reiterate in this regard the strong solidarity and commitment of the Movement toward the achievement of these noble objectives.

14. Strongly urge the international community to create a genuine global partnership for the development of Africa as well as for its effective and harmonious integration into the world economy to allow the continent to occupy its right place in the world, ensure its economic and social development and play more effectively its role in the international affairs.

MOVEMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
CARTAGENA, APRIL 8-9, 2000

Declaration on the Peace Process in Colombia

1. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Non- Aligned Movement, meeting in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia on 8 and 9 April 2000 at the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Movement, expressed their support for the peace process launched by the Government of Colombia, and hoped for its successful completion. In this context, the Ministers praised the President Andrés Pastrana's strong commitment and personal leadership in favour of a political solution to the conflict through a negotiated peace agreement.

2. The Ministers expressed their appreciation to the Government of Colombia for its efforts in reaffirming Cartagena as a symbol of the strength, unity and autonomy of the Non- Aligned Movement. The Ministers also expressed their thanks and appreciation to the people of Colombia, to its authorities and to the kind people of Cartagena de Indias for their hospitality and warmth.

MOVEMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES
XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
CARTAGENA, APRIL 8-9, 2000

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR-GENERAL

1. The Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non- Aligned Countries was held in Cartagena, Colombia on 8 and 9 April 2000.

2. It was preceded by a Preparatory Meeting of Senior Officials on April 7 2000.

3. The following members of the Movement attended the Conference:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Colombia, Congo, Côte D' Ivoire, Chile, Chad, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

4. The following countries attended the Conference as Observers:

Brazil, Costa Rica, Croatia, China People's Republic of, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay, Ukraine.

5. The following International Organisations and Movements of National Liberation also attended as observers:

Asian and African Peoples Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO), Committee of the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CTBTO), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), High Commissioner for Refugees, New Independentist Movement of Puerto Rico, International Organisation for Migration, Organisation of the African Unity, International Committee of the Red Cross, South Centre, UNESCO, UNICEF, United Nations.

6. The following guests, countries and organisations attended the opening and closing ceremonies of the Ministerial Conference:

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway,

Poland, Portugal, Rumania, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Switzerland, Sweden, United States of America, United Kingdom.

Opening of the Conference

7. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa opened the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference.

8. The Conference observed a minute of silence in memory of the leaders of the Movement who had passed away since the XII Summit Conference, particularly, His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco, His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan, former President of Tunisia H.E. Habib Bourguiba and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa H.E. Mr Alfred Nzo.

9. H.E. Mr. Andrés Pastrana Arango, President of Colombia, delivered the inaugural address, which the Conference adopted as an official document.

10. Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations, sent a message to the Ministerial Conference, which was delivered by Mr. Kieran Prendergast, Under Secretary General for Political Affairs of the United Nations.

11. On a proposal from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa, the Conference elected H.E. Mr. Guillermo Fernández de Soto, Minister of Foreign affairs of Colombia as its Chairman.

Election of Officers (Agenda Item 2)

12. The Conference constituted by consensus the following Bureau.

Vice Chairmen:
- For Africa: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabón, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Senegal.
- For Asia: Iraq, Kuwait, Pakistan, Palestine and Vietnam.
- For Latin America and the Caribbean: Cuba, Guyana, Jamaica and Panama.
- For Europe: Belarus.

Rapporteur-General: Dominican Republic.
Chairman of the Political Committee: South Africa.
Chairman of the Economic and Social Committee: Islamic Republic of Iran.
South Africa, as the current Chairman of the Movement, participated as member ex officio.

Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda item 3)

13. The Conference adopted the following agenda, contained in document NAM/MC/2.

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of Officers
3. Adoption of the Agenda
4. Report of the Preparatory Meeting
5. Organisation of work

6. Report of the Chairman of the Non- Aligned Movement
7. Review of the International Political and Economic Situation
8. Consideration and adoption of the documents
9. Other matters

Report of the Preparatory Meeting of Senior Officials (Agenda Item 4)

14. The conference took note of the report of the Senior Officials, contained in document NAM/SOM/3, and approved its recommendations.

Organisation of Work (Agenda Item 5)

15. The Conference decided to establish a Political Committee to review Chapter I (Global Issues) and Chapter II (Analysis of the International Situation), and an Economic and Social Committee to review Chapter III (Economic Issues) and Chapter IV (Social Issues) of the draft Final Document (Document NAM/MC/1/Rev 1).

Report of the Chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement (Agenda Item 6)

16. The Conference took note of the report of the Chairman of the Movement, presented by the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Bureau.

Review of the International Political and Economic situation (Agenda Item 7)

17. The Conference reviewed developments and implementation of decisions of the Durban Summit, made presentations for the next Summit and discussed matters of urgency. The outcome of its discussions is contained in the Final Document and in the special Declarations.

Consideration and Adoption of the final documents of the Ministerial Conference (Agenda Item 8)

18. The Conference adopted the following documents:

Draft Agenda	NAM/MC/2
Organisation of Work	NAM/MC/3
Draft Final Document	NAM/MC/1/Rev.2
Opening Address by the President of Colombia	NAM/MC/5
Declaration on the Millennium Summit	NAM/MC/6
Declaration on Africa	NAM/MC/7
Declaration on the Peace Process in Colombia	NAM/MC/8
Report of the Rapporteur	NAM/MC/4

The following delegations entered reservations on various paragraphs in the Final Document: Burkina Faso, Chile, Guatemala, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, State of Kuwait, Peru, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Togo.

Closing of the Conference

19. The closing session was held on April 9. H.E. Guillermo Fernandez de Soto, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia delivered the closing statement. Statements were made by the representatives of the four regional groups, Ethiopia for Africa, Oman for Asia, Cuba for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Belarus for Europe. The delegation of South Africa also made a statement.

XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT
-OPENING CEREMONY-

ANDRES PASTRANA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

Cartagena de Indias, 8th April 2000

Your Excellency Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa
Your Excellency, Kieran Prendergast, Under Secretary General for Political Affairs, United Nations
Mr. Guillermo Fernandez De Soto, Jairo Montoya
Governor, Mayoress, Officers of the Navy
Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation
Representatives of Observer Countries and Organizations
Colleagues
Special Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

Cartagena, a city full of history and legend, and meeting point of men and women from around the world, receives you again with all the affection of the Colombian people "in whose blessed soil the Creator deposited an infinity of marvellous things," and welcomes you to this Ministerial Conference.

May I first make special mention of the leadership which South Africa, as President of the Non-Aligned Movement, as given us, and extend our appreciation to its President Thabo Mbeki, and to his Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Ministers and Heads of Delegation,

This is the first conference of the non-aligned Countries in the new millennium. It is a unique opportunity to review the achievements of the Movement, and to deploy our collective will before the challenges of the future.

At the end of the Cold War, a period began in which a new spirit of co-operation promised an era of peace and prosperity in the world. During the decade completed, unprecedented possibilities have been opened up, but at the same time conflicts of local interests, and new tensions, problems and threats have emerged. It has not yet been possible to establish the conditions for a safe, stable, regulated- and hence predictable - world.

Since the collapse of the two-power world, intellectuals and political leaders have been attempting to find a paradigm that reflects the realities of the emerging order. In this post-cold-war era, it has become clear that the world is passing through a period of political transition, and as such is characterized by risks, imbalances, and uncertainties. But it is also a period of opportunities and challenges.

Our historic imperative is to foster an international order whose essential foundation is democratic participation in all States in taking decisions on the basic items of the global agenda: an order inspired by respect for human rights and the full application of international humanitarian law. An order founded on the consolidation of an impartial collective security system. An order in which the peaceful solution of differences must be the golden rule, and not the exception. An order in which intergovernmental organizations must play the key role in shaping our history.

We have the right and the duty to play an active part, on an equal footing, in the definition of a global order, which includes the aspirations and interest of our developing countries. An order which regulates globalization will have to take account of the very great challenges faced by mankind: the reduction of abject poverty, the risks to the environment that concern this whole planet, the marginal situation of huge numbers of people around the world, the lethal menace of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, global threats to human health, natural disasters, violations of human rights, fundamental guarantees for the individual and the world problem of drug-trafficking, amongst others.

The dawn of the new century is an opportunity to ask ourselves what kind of Movement we are, what our goals are and how we can ensure that the Movement will be a dynamic and interactive group, with a visible influence in world affairs.

With the end of the Cold War, some were quick to predict that our Movement would disappear. It is not an insignificant fact that ten years after, the Movement maintains its full validity and vitality.

There is the evident possibility of a one-power world, and a dangerous trend towards actions taken outside the context of the world's supreme forum – indeed, outside the Security Council, its senior body, responsible for the maintenance of world peace and security.

The relevant question now does not refer, therefore, to the existence or validity of the Movement. That question has been answered. The truly important question should refer to the role of the Movement in the shape and direction of the international agenda. We represent the overwhelming majority in the United Nations.

Unfortunately, it is not always our points of view that count. We often find that the formula for solutions has been worked out before we are consulted. We are too often limited to offering a reaction. Meanwhile, new norms and orientations are established which are vital to our future but lack the vision of our societies. It is urgent that the Movement make a careful examination of the implication of these developments.

The Movement should be a pro-active group in shaping the political and economic agenda of the world. The pace of globalisation and the challenges of multilateralism leave us no choice. If we want to be part of the winds of change – instead of being blown away by them – we must make our presence stronger and press for an agenda, which looks for practical results.

Heads of Delegation, Delegates,

The United Nations Summit of the Millennium, to be held in September, gives us a valuable opportunity to do this. We should take advantage of the Summit to define a new model of international cooperation which will acts as the basis of a world order which is more human, with greater economic and social justice, in which each nation may develop its own potential.

The Movement must consolidate its position regarding the nature and scope of the Summit, so that the Summit will be effective and fruitful. The Summit must be a forum for the world's leaders to develop a relevant and constructive dialogue. To start a serious, in-depth discussion on the future of United Nations, and the future of the world. This Conference provides the opportunity to advance in that direction.

Ministers and delegates,

One of the central questions which, to tell the truth, lacks a complete answer from the Movement is how to face the challenges of globalization.

This vacuum is more notorious if we consider the risks of marginalization already faced by the developing countries.

In this context, it is crucial to examine the impact of globalization on the fabric of society of our countries. And the introduction of people-centered development models in the context of today's world of rapid liberalization of trade and finance. The Movement should encourage the definition of long-term development strategies in which all countries, regardless of size, have an open and free opportunity to become meaningful members of the new economic order.

Another of the challenges to face is the compatibility between the principles and values of national sovereignty and globalization. How do we reconcile the defense of democracy and human rights, new needs for peace and international security, the liberalization of trade and investment, conservation of environment, and the fight against emerging threats - with the principles of non-intervention, sovereignty of States and other values of international law? The Movement should give priority attention to the examination of this question and its response to it.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In recent years, the international community has faced unprecedented challenges in the humanitarian field. Large numbers of people have suffered the devastating effect of natural disasters and situations of conflict. Colombia shares the legitimate concerns of the international community and international organizations, in the face of the magnitude and frequency of such emergencies. They are a challenge to human solidarity, and demand a satisfactory response.

The Movement should promote a free and open discussion of these topics by multilateral institutions. Any new orientation of humanitarian assistance should be based on unconditional respect for the Charter of the United Nations and international law. It must also be inspired by the basic criteria of neutrality and impartiality.

Equally, and as the interpretation of the Charter is broadened to make room for humanitarian intervention, the modes of that intervention should also be broadened. We should insist on the need to prefer preventive measures because they cost fewer lives and less expense in armed action, as a basic element in our reflections. Here, I quote the words of the Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi A. Annan that we must also recognize that all armed intervention is, in itself, the result of a failure to prevent. And that when we consider the future of intervention, we must redouble our efforts to strengthen our capacity to prevent, including early-warning, preventive diplomacy, preventive displacement and preventive disarmament."

Recent experience has shown that dialogue, negotiation and the creation of conditions which favour development, can be an effective contribution to overcoming the causes of conflict.

This vision should be complemented with respect for the principles of international humanitarian law, as a fundamental component of humanitarian assistance in cases of conflict. Particular priority must be given to the most vulnerable groups in situations of confrontation.

International humanitarian law is an essential element in securing the sustainability of peace processes. This is precisely one of the basic premises, which the Government of Colombia has determined for its peace policy. It is the main purpose of the Government to continue to encourage the humanization of the internal conflict, as we move along the road towards the ultimate objective of eliminating it, once and for all, from our territory. We have called upon those involved in the confrontation and we have said to them that if the objective of their struggle is related to the interests of the people, the first sign of that struggle should be full respect for civil population.

Action to consolidate peace also entails a start from the very beginning of construction of the society that will exist after the accords are signed, in areas such as the strengthening of human rights, the reconstruction and consolidation of political institutions and humanitarian assistance for the innocent victims of conflict.

And it is precisely in the framework of the strengthening of our democratic institutions which I presented to the Colombian people in my recent proposal of a referendum to bring new order to our ways of practising politics, appealing to the sovereign decision of the people, within the mandate of our Constitution. Our nations must always follow the path of respect for institutions, and that is what Colombia, deeply attached to its traditions of law and democracy, is now doing.

Distinguished delegates,

In the heart of every Colombian there now shines the hope of restoring peace and consolidating co-existence and reconciliation in society. In one and a half years we have made progress that was long unthinkable. But now we have started a process of negotiation with the FARC, the oldest and largest of the insurgent groups. We have agreed on an agenda. The negotiators have started an analysis of economic and social issues. We have encouraged wide-ranging participation by the public, through an Agenda Committee, which will process the concerns expressed by ordinary people and different groups in society. We have held talks with the ELN, which we hope will allow us to begin formal negotiations.

There is a very long way to go, of course. But there now exists among us the conviction that we in Colombia can also silence the guns, and achieve peace. This implies the great challenge of consolidating the dialogue process with the insurgents, and undertaking far-reaching political, economic and social transformations, which Colombia requires so as to be a prosperous and peaceful country, with equality of opportunities.

I must repeat to you, as prominent members of the international community, that no insurgent group and nobody engaged in armed conflict in any part of the world, can claim to be relieved of any obligation to comply strictly with the norms and principles and international humanitarian law. Its application does not depend on political status: it is a universal ethical imperative, which binds States and non-States alike. Nobody can abdicate from this ethical code, in any action, or in any situation.

A key factor in these efforts has been the support and solidarity for our Diplomacy for Peace in friendly peoples, governments, and international organizations. Colombia is grateful for such support, for the many voices of encouragement, and co-operation by international community. Now, as we are ready to take the process deeper, we need that political support and facilitation from friendly countries more than ever before.

We rely on the Non-Aligned Movement and other countries and organizations represented here, with the certainty that the conflict solution in Colombia is also a matter of interest to the world. Expressions of solidarity and support from the Member Countries of the Non Aligned Movement will be an invaluable additional stimulus for us to pursue the quest for national reconciliation in Colombia.

My friends,

Another of the great challenges, which the international community must face today, is the scourge of corruption. Sadly, it is a cancer, which has penetrated deep into all organs of power, blocking our road to progress and social justice.

The referendum, which I have called, justly interprets the will to create institutional mechanisms and means to combat corruption efficiently.

Corruption is asphyxiating us. Its stranglehold has reached all branches of public life. But good examples begin at home: we have started the house-cleaning operation in the Executive, and will not let up until Colombia is corruption-free.

Today I invite you to join efforts in this urgent world crusade for transparency.

Ministers, Heads of Delegation, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation and satisfaction for the great response to the holding of this Ministerial Conference. The presence of such distinguished visitors and the active participation of Member-Countries in the preparatory stages are a guarantee for the successful result, which we all expect.

Our group faces an immense challenge and has a formidable fight to pursue: to foster the construction of a new order in international relations, based on democracy and equity. We the Member-States, without exception, must all contribute every ounce of our strength to this noble enterprise.

If we join our efforts around this urgent cause, we will be able advances, with a firm step, along the path of the new century. I am confident that the political capacity of the Non-Aligned Movement will allow us to take part, from a position of strength, in the design of a world order of equity, transparency and solidarity, which will regulate globalization and help to distribute its benefits.

As Argentina's Ernesto Sabato wrote, "Solidarity acquires a decisive place in this leaderless world which excludes difference. When we make ourselves responsible for out neighbour's grief, we acquire a purpose in life which places us above the fatalities of history."

Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF COLOMBIA, MR. GUILLERMO FERNANDEZ DE SOTO, UPON CLOSING THE XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF THE MOVEMENT OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES, CARTAGENA, APRIL 8-9, 2000

Your Excellency, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa

Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegation
Distinguished Delegates of the Observer Countries and Organizations
Special Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

We have completed our tasks. For Colombia, as the host country for the XIII Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement, it is a particular honor to share with you the great satisfaction derived from the successful results achieved in our work.

When Colombia accepted the responsibility of serving as the headquarters for this Ministerial Conference, we did so with pride and conviction, and fully aware of the enormous challenge that presenting a renewed and solid political platform posed to the countries of the Movement upon starting a new millennium. Today, we can give a positive report on this accomplishment.

The documents adopted at this important meeting, the constructive and united spirit that prevailed during the deliberations, and the high level of political mobilization observed are a testimony to the Movement's vitality and its new projection within the international scenario.

With the mandates approved, the Movement now has clear guidelines for continuing in its struggle to build a more humane and equitable global order and promote greater democratization of international relations. Hereinafter, our voice shall be heard with renewed attention.

Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegation,

We have reaffirmed our conviction in the principles of non-alignment. The Movement has come out strengthened and with greater confidence to be present and exert its political power within the international arena.

Upon examining the impact of globalization, we have concluded that issues such as trade liberalization, human rights and environmental problems, among other things, have implications that go beyond borders and are exercising a notorious influence on the traditional concepts of international politics. And we have understood within the Movement that international cooperation and political dialogue are the necessary solution for facing the reality of these phenomena in a way that is compatible with the principles of our group.

Likewise, we have reiterated that in order to reduce the risks of marginalization in a world caught up in a rapid globalization process, it is necessary to promote active and broad participation in decision-making processes at an international level. Without such participation, our vulnerability will be greater. The Movement must insist on making global

decision-making more representative and transparent. This is a prerequisite for promoting a global system of comprehensive, fair and non-discriminatory economic relations.

The Conference has given the Troika of the Movement, comprised of South Africa, Bangladesh and Colombia, a clear mandate to continue promoting dialogue with the developed countries, particularly with a view to conveying the Movement's issues of interest to the next G-8 Summit to be held in Okinawa, Japan in July of this year. On that occasion, the Movement shall insist on the need for said dialogue to be based on mutual benefits and interests, shared responsibilities and genuine interdependence.

In that regard, we shall take the initiative so as to keep the results of the recent Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization from translating into additional deterioration of the multilateral system in the economic forum. For this purpose, we have defined the basic criteria that must orient future commercial negotiations, taking into account the interests of the Non-Aligned Countries and other developing countries.

We shall also give the same priority to the high level meeting summoned by the United Nations General Assembly for the year 2001, in order to address the issues related to development financing. We shall promote that event as a valuable opportunity for discussing the formulas that make it possible to cover the needs of the developing countries and we shall also continue to further the reform of the international financial system.

We have agreed that the Movement shall continue to exercise all its political influence so that the international community seek out solutions to the expectations and aspirations of thousands of millions of people that inhabit the planet who are living in conditions of backwardness and despair. We understand that that commitment is a necessary condition for our group to be truly significant to the peoples of the developing world. But, above all else, because it is the only organization that can allow them to make their voice heard within the global scenario.

That is why we have expressed our commitment to contributing to accelerating the implementation of the commitments assumed in the Summit on Social Development and ensuring that the revision of said implementation, that will take place in June of this year, fully coincide with the purposes of eradication of poverty, generation of employment and social integration. Likewise, we shall also make sure that the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the subject of Women, which is also to be held in the middle of the year, translate into effective measures for incorporating the perspective of gender into the multiple dimensions of development.

Distinguished participants,

Based on this Ministerial Conference, we, the countries of the Movement, shall intensify our political action to insist that the process of nuclear proliferation be reverted and the world head towards true disarmament, especially in the case of mass destruction weapons. All of the States, regardless of their condition and size, have not only the interest but also the commitment to contributing to the elimination of the dangers of a nuclear conflict.

The elimination of mass destruction arms and the setting of specific deadlines for said purpose, as well as the termination of the growing use of sophisticated conventional weapons, are essential requirements that the Movement will continue to demand in order to give true stability to international peace and security.

To this will be added our efforts to revert the illegal trafficking of small arms. The Movement shall play an active part in the Conference summoned by the United Nations on this issue. We shall promote the most extensive participation of the Non-Aligned Countries and other Member States of the United Nations in that important Conference, as well as during its preparatory process.

We have also promised to reinforce the Movement's presence in the fight against illegal drugs, emphasizing the need to reduce their consumption in the buyer countries. The Movement has insisted on the need to promote new alternatives for development that offer income opportunities to the most vulnerable populations and thus discourage illegal drug production.

In addition, the deliberations that begin this Monday, April 10 in Vienna within the framework of the Tenth Congress of the United Nations on Crime Prevention and Treatment of Delinquents will be a good opportunity for us, the Non-Aligned Countries, to reaffirm our commitment to combat transnational crime, in accordance with the mandates agreed to at this Cartagena Conference. In this regard, we must promote the broadest possible participation of the Movement's member countries in the negotiations aimed at the adoption of the International Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Distinguished Delegates,

With the results achieved at this Ministerial meeting, we have been able to update the Movement's vision regarding the new concepts of international peace and security. This will give us a greater capacity of proposal so that such concepts be compatible with the reduction of tensions and conflicts. It is in this spirit that we have exhaustively gone over international peace issues, including regional situations that affect Movement countries. In its statements, the Conference has formulated new recommendations and has given all of its support to the efforts to be undertaken for peacefully solving existing disputes.

Within this context, we must underline the request formulated by the Non-Aligned Movement here in Cartagena so that all of the parties involved in a conflict ensure due respect and adherence to international humanitarian law, in such a way as to exclude the civilian population from any act of violence or other actions that violate its rights and liberties.

The Movement shall insist that any new orientation on security-related issues must be translated into the acknowledgement of the role of the United Nations as an institution created for peace and development. The UNO must be empowered to fully play its role of regulator of international relations, as the only institution with the possibility of ensuring equality among the States. It is, in addition, the only institution where democratic principles can be fully applied.

Recently, the credibility and effectiveness of the United Nations in relation to conflicts between States has been questioned. In the Movement, we have a clear perception of what we want from the United Nations. In that regard, we shall maintain a firm position so that the Security Council preserve its main responsibility in maintaining international security and peace, consulting the principles of democracy, representativity and transparency.

We shall give top priority to our participation in the Millennium Summit and the United Nations Millennium Assembly. There we will have the opportunity to articulate our vision on the

challenges of this new era. We shall present specific proposals for projecting the role of the United Nations into the 21st century, particularly in the fields of peace, security, disarmament, development and the eradication of poverty.

Honorable delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

In a few hours the South Summit shall begin in Havana. With it, undoubtedly, the path will be left opened to a new era of greater equity in economic relations. The Summit will be a unique opportunity for addressing key aspects regarding globalization, North-South relations and South-South cooperation, including the issues of know-how and technology. Recent developments in the global economy have again made evident the imperious need for the developing countries to arrange a positive agenda. In this sense, the Havana Summit shall be a historical milestone.

Distinguished delegates,

Now, at the end of this intense activity, allow me to express the satisfaction and immense gratitude of Colombia for your diligent performance, for your dedication throughout these days of arduous work.

Now, when we have entered the new millennium, the Movement's decision to build a peaceful, prosperous and equitable world has found new impetus, a new reason for being. This is our greatest contribution to the Movement's cause, our contribution to the significant and relevant role we expect it to play in the international scenario.

With this Conference, we have been able to write a valuable page in the history of the Movement and in the tremendous task that we must pursue in a resolute and constructive manner in order to consolidate our common action to the benefit of peace, justice and democracy.

We look forward to meeting again soon and hope that your stay in Cartagena will instill in you the best memories of Colombia, its image, its history, and its people.

Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SOUTH AFRICA, MS NKOSAZANA DLAMINI-ZUMA, CHAIR OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, AT THE XIII MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, CARTAGENA, APRIL 8-9, 2000

Your Excellencies, Honorable Ministers, Ambassadors, Distinguished Delegates

Eighteen months ago, the Summit of the Non-Aligned Heads of State or Government meeting in Durban, South Africa, unanimously adopted a declaration in which we proclaimed: "We now stand on the threshold of a new era. An era that offers great opportunity, yet poses a special danger for the developing world."

Our Movement further declared: "We see powerful processes that continue to marginalise many countries of our Movement. We see the twin forces of globalisation and liberalisation having adverse social and economic consequences, which add to the burdens of everyday life in much of the South."

Excellencies,

Today, we are here at this great and historic city of Cartagena to review how far our Movement has come since Durban. African delegations have arrived here via Cairo where they participated in a historic Summit of African Heads of State and their European counterparts. This is a further step to enhance our regional dialogue with the North. We emphasized that the struggle against poverty is also a struggle against genocide, war and instability. There has to be a common commitment and obligation to end poverty and underdevelopment among the countries of the North and South. In our dialogue with the North, we have to stress the urgent need of debt relief for the developing countries. This is just some of the reason it is in the interest of the North to enter into partnerships for development. There has to be a strategic partnership on issues of trade and development.

From here we go to Havana, Cuba where the South Summit will provide us with a unique opportunity to act in solidarity in addressing the problems facing the South. We have to reflect on the major economic challenges facing the developing countries in the context of globalisation which continues to threaten the sovereignty of states.

Excellencies,

In meeting the many challenges facing our countries, we must remain inspired by the many successes of the past which made our Movement such a pivotal factor in international relations. We must remind ourselves that our Movement always mobilised for causes which were concerned with humanity as a whole. We were always committed to the great moral issues of our time. We should continue to be at the forefront in highlighting global problems and articulating action-oriented, achievable solutions. We must become more effective in projecting our Movement as responsible and an equal partner in the search for global solutions.

Our Movement has to debate the issues of importance, not only of importance to the South but also to the North, such as the issue of the reform and the role of the United Nations. We need to define humanitarian intervention, otherwise others will define it for us.

However, the challenge for us to guard against delays in formulating a coherent response within the Movement. We need to ensure that we are able to find common ground on political

and economic issues that are of shared concern to all our Members. Speaking at the opening of the NAM Ministerial Meeting last September in New York, the Chairman of our Movement President Thabo Mbeki asked: "Are we taking up the challenges of today, or have we allowed ourselves to be transformed into an organization comprising Governments that periodically speak with one voice at Conferences and Summits, yet act unilaterally without reference to agreed policies after that? Can we really be effective if our procedures and methods of work only allow us to move at the pace of the slowest, or the most difficult Member of the Movement? Clearly none of us can accept that inaction should characterize the nature and practice of the Movement". This question has been asked, we have not yet answered it. How do we address issues that come in between Summits.

Excellencies,

As Chair, we are conscious of the challenges that lie ahead. We realise that unity is essential if our Movement is to impact on global events. At the same time, we know that the rapid changes in the political and economic environment place added importance and urgency upon us to come up with solutions that meet the new challenges.

South Africa is at its halfway mark in serving as the custodian of this Movement. We shall continue to consult the Membership through the various mechanisms at our disposal and work to enhance the dynamic role for the Movement in the 21st century. At this first meeting of NAM Ministers in the new millennium, we have the opportunity to chart a course and lay the foundation that will see our Movement continue to be relevant in the search for solutions in a world that is changing very fast.

Thank you.